

Monday

Pop ...
A generation after the heyday of the Beatles Spectrum finds that big business has moved into pop ... goes the MP

Furtively, in the small hours, MPs have voted to move house

Sparring ...
The British Lightweight Boxing Championship: Srikanth Sen reports ... partners

The Monday Page meets couples who work together - such as Judi Dench and Michael Williams



Hard times
First of a series on Mozambique, a land torn by war, drought and economic troubles

Cable & Wireless sale flops

The Government's privatization programme suffered a setback as investors bid for only about 70 per cent of the Cable & Wireless shares offered in a £275m state sell-off.

Observers said the City had been discouraged by reports of a high striking price. Page 21

Police shake-up

A new police strategy, emphasizing policing the community by consent, is disclosed in a Home Office circular to chief constables. Page 2

Transport Bill

A government Bill aimed at severing the link between London Transport and the Greater London Council and offering scope for privatization has been published. Page 2

Arson ruling

The Court of Appeal cleared Bruce Lee, the Humberston arsonist, of killing 11 men, but convictions relating to 15 other fire victims stand. Page 3

CND action

The CND is to decide this weekend at its annual conference whether it should take up nationally a campaign to persuade Servicemen to join the organization. Page 2

Space extra

The crew of the space shuttle Columbia are asking for an extra day in space to complete their heavy workload in the European Spaceclab. Page 4

Kidnap ordeal

Mr Alfred Heaneken, the kidnaped brewery chief who was freed by police on Wednesday, has described how he was chained up in a cold damp cell for three weeks. Page 5

Blow to banks

Banks face a legal stumbling block in their attempt to introduce bank debit cards, which allow electronic transfer of funds at the shop till. Family Money, page 26

Air response

The Soviet Union has announced plans for a unified air traffic control system. Diplomats said the move might be a response to the downing of the Korean airliner three months ago. Relatives claim, page 4

Arsenal's jolt

Arsenal's chairman, Peter Hill-Wood, gave his players a pep talk before the club's home match against West Bromwich Albion today. Arsenal lost to third division Walsall on Tuesday. Page 30

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Letters On educational standards, from Mr Giles Radice, MP, and Mrs F. M. Andrews; airline safety, from Mr Mostyn Evans; telecommunications, from Mr W. J. Bray

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Sir Rowland Baker, Dame Ida Mann

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US tells Russia to keep out of the Middle East

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The new agreement on strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, reached during talks this week between President Reagan and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, is intended to send a clear message to the Soviet Union to stop its penetration into the Middle East, according to a senior American official.

It is also a warning to Syria, which is the main recipient of Soviet arms and other military assistance in the region, that it should urgently reconsider its persistent refusal to withdraw 40,000 of its troops from eastern Lebanon.

Although the official insisted that the US is not planning any joint offensive military actions with Israel, it is expected the accord will produce a new sense of assertiveness by Mr Shamir's Government. This could lead to further retaliatory strikes by Israel into Syrian-occupied Lebanon.

The Reagan Administration believes that this week's visits to Washington by Mr Shamir and President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon have laid the framework for a new US-led initiative for a withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and in the longer term, reviving President Reagan's September 1, 1982, peace initiative.

US officials have described the new strategic cooperation agreement as one of the most

far-reaching accords ever reached with the Jewish state.

Details of this new strategic relationship will be worked out in Washington next month by the newly-established joint political-military committee. The agreement will cover joint military planning, joint naval and air force manoeuvres, the prepositioning of US military and medical supplies in Israel and the probable use of Haifa by the US Navy.

The Queen is aware of security risks during her planned visit to Jordan next spring, but a final decision on going depends on the advice of her ministers, the Queen's press secretary, Mr Michael Shea, said yesterday. The fears arise from the terrorist campaign being waged by an extremist Palestinian group.

Although Israel appears to gain most from the accord, it will have important military and political benefits for the US. "It makes sense for us to cooperate with one of the most proficient military powers in the world," one US official remarked.

By enhancing Israel's sense of security against Soviet penetration in the Middle East, the US hopes Mr Shamir's Government will show greater pragmatism on the issues of Israeli troop withdrawals from Lebanon, US arms sales to moderate

Arab states and the President's peace initiative.

Mr Shamir's public statements in Washington provided few signs that he was prepared to be more flexible on any of these points. However, US officials are confident that Israel genuinely wants to get its troops out of southern Lebanon and will be prepared to carry out a series of partial, unilateral withdrawals. But Mr Shamir made clear that a total Israeli withdrawal could only be simultaneously carried out with a pull-out of the 40,000 Syrian troops in eastern Lebanon.

Although Mr Shamir was insistent on keeping to the letter of the May 17 Israel-Lebanon agreement, a further pull-back of Israeli forces could be negotiated with the Lebanese Government within the context of that accord. Syria has strongly condemned this agreement and refused to pull any of its troops out.

US officials noted that President Gemayel had said after meeting President Reagan that he was prepared to go beyond the letter of the law in setting up appropriate mechanisms and conditions to achieve a withdrawal of all foreign forces from his country.

President Reagan also hopes the new agreement will make Mr Shamir's Government "more mature" in its attitude towards US arms sales to moderate Arab states.

Whitelaw to protect Government image

By Julian Haviland

Political Editor

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, has given her most senior colleague, Lord Whitelaw, the responsibility of improving presentation of government policy.

His task, although not so described, will be to make the actions of ministers seem as wise and benign and consistent with one another as the truth will allow, or, failing that, to prevent them saying anything to damage the Government.

It is one of the least envied duties of ministers. Mr John Biffen, the Leader of the Commons, who had shouldered it until yesterday, was said to be delighted to lay it down.

Lord Whitelaw, who did the same job for Mr Edward Heath from 1970 to 1972, has told Mrs Thatcher he is anxious to help. But he does not have exaggerated hopes of success. He will have no extra staff.

The day-to-day work of coordinating the output of government information from the Whitehall departments will remain with Mr Bernard Ingham, the Prime Minister's Press Secretary, who has easy and regular access to her. But Mr Ingham cannot interfere with the speeches of ministers.

Mr Biffen, who in theory was empowered to do so, would not have had the weight as the 14th ranking member of the Cabinet, even if he had the inclination, to suggest to the Foreign Secretary or to the Chancellor of the Exchequer what they should or should not say.

Yet Sir Geoffrey Howe, on the subject of Grenada, and Mr Nigel Lawson, on public expenditure and taxation, have both upset colleagues.

Mrs Thatcher hopes that Lord Whitelaw, the experienced conciliator, with all ambition spent, may be able to take them aside for a word without causing offence.

Mrs Thatcher's decision to bring in Lord Whitelaw is based on her and Mr Ingham's belief that the great increase in the government's Parliamentary majority at the election has made the Conservative Party more fissile and Fleet Street more critical.

By Peter Hennessy

The Prime Minister has agreed to a request from the Political Honours Scrutiny Committee that the system be tightened up to prevent suspicions of impropriety and backdoor political patronage. The new procedure has been in operation for some time but full details have not been made public.

The committee of Privy Counsellors was concerned that chairmen of companies which donate to Conservative Party funds, who are honoured for their contribution to industry rather than for political services, could be suspected of receiving peerages or knight-

Picket line truce opens way for NGA peace talks

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Crucial talks aimed at resolving the Stockport Messenger dispute, which has threatened to involve the entire printing industry, will resume on Monday after a peace initiative yesterday from the National Graphical Association (NGA).

After a night in which concessions came and went, the union pledged in court yesterday that it would end illegal mass picketing around the company's plants in Warrington and Bury for seven days.

The High Court in Manchester then decided it would adjourn until next Friday two court actions brought by the Messenger's chairman, Mr Selim (Eddie) Shah which arose out of the NGA's defiance of a court order halting the secondary action.

On Thursday night Mr Tony Dubbins, general secretary elect of the NGA, offered to lift the picketing, if Mr Shah withdrew yesterday's court action which was taking place against the background of the legal seizure of the union's £10m funds. Despite the fact that Mr Shah went ahead with the hearing, the NGA told the court that it would stop the blockade.

The talks on Monday, at the

TUC backs journalists in Dimpleby dispute

By Our Labour Reporter

Leaders of the National Union of Journalists yesterday won financial backing from the TUC as they continued to defy the law on secondary industrial action.

The General Council agreed to assist the NUJ with its £8,000 legal costs and agreed in principle that, in the event of court sanctions, it would help the union to carry out its "lawful function on behalf of its members".

Mr David Dimpleby, the broadcaster and chairman of the Richmond and Twickenham Times group, yesterday said he would be seeking legal advice on Monday over whether he should be taking action because

of the union's apparent contempt of court.

The union told the Court of Appeal on Thursday that it could not obey an injunction stopping the action by its members over the transfer of printing from Mr Dimpleby's company to the non-union TBF printers in Nottingham.

Mr Dimpleby refused to say yesterday whether he would pursue a contempt of court claim, but the union continued to take measures against possible sequestration of its £1.3m assets by dispersing funds.

Mr Dimpleby said: "I don't want to get ahead of myself. I am also waiting to see if there are any other developments over the weekend ...



Mr Walpole and the runaway carrier in the lounge of his home.

Runaway carrier wrecks houses

An 11-ton armoured personnel carrier ran out of control yesterday, crashing into three houses and ending up in the living room of a fourth. Several people were treated for shock.

The carrier, from Borden Camp, west Sussex, careered down Petersfield Road, Whitehill, Hampshire, demolishing a lamp post and took off the porch of the house of Mrs Alice Ottewill, aged 80.

The Army offered to rehouse in their married quarters anyone made homeless in the incident.

The carrier ended up embedded in the living room of Mrs Sylvia Walpole.

Another of the houses, clipped by the runaway vehicle was that of Mrs Marie Hunt, who is pregnant. Her husband George, aged 29, said: "I heard a big bang like a bomb going off and the whole house slundered with everything moving."

"I could hear my wife screaming, and ran downstairs fearing she was trapped. There were cracks in the wall of the house you could put your hands through."

Mrs Ottewill said she was in her kitchen when she heard a bang. "I ran to see what it was and my front door was down, the windows were smashed and everything was broken."

There were two men in the carrier when the accident happened.



Wrecked front of one of the four houses damaged in the accident.

Village sealed after gang escapes trap

Hundreds of police officers, some armed, were last night searching a patch of dense woodland near Bristol for an armed gang which had escaped a police trap.

Officers armed with revolvers and shotguns had lain in wait at the village of Brockley, where it is thought the gang had planned to ambush a mail van.

As police moved in on the parked getaway vehicle, one of the four raiders aimed a sawn-off shotgun at them. One policeman fired towards the car but it is thought no one was hit.

The gang fled for cover in the nearby Brockley Coombe woods. Police later recovered a weapon, masks and ammonia from the car, which was believed to be stolen.

As they started their search with helicopters hovering overhead, they closed all roads leading to the village, cordoned off an area a mile and a half in radius around it, and told villagers to stay indoors.

Police said: "Members of the public should not attempt to approach these men. They are extremely dangerous."

Mr David Groves, who runs Brockley Court old people's home, said: "A workman who saw what happened said that he saw the police going towards these men."

"There was a shot and then it got very confusing. The gunmen jumped over a wall chased by police and dogs."

Mr James Sharples, assistant chief constable (crime) of Avon and Somerset Police said: "The operation went according to plan in that a major crime was prevented. The incident happened away from the public which police intended. An inquiry will be launched into why the shot was fired."

Three of the gang were said to be in their 20s, two white and one of mixed race. The was no description of the fourth.

Mortgage rates cut early next year

By Lorna Bourke

Building societies are expected to postpone their hoped-for cut in mortgage rates until the new year because of continuing strong demand for home loans.

The Building Societies Association Council meets next week, but most societies favour a delay. The decision may be put off until February as there is no scheduled council meeting in January, although one could be called.

A spokesman for the Nationwide Building Society said: "I don't think there is any prospect of a cut next week. We are still experiencing very high demand for mortgages in spite of the fact that we would normally expect a seasonal downturn."

"There is no point cutting the rates to offer cheaper mortgages to fewer people. National Savings is giving us a good run for our money and the pressure from this quarter is unlikely to tail off."

Figures to be released next week will show that the societies took about £900m during November. This compares with a record £1,100m in October but is good for the time of year.

A spokesman for Abbey National said: "We would favour a change on the basis of the weight of inflow of funds coming in, but mortgage demand is still high."

"But I don't think we will be able to persuade the other societies to do anything they don't want to do."

Abbey does not rule out the possibility of going it alone and cutting its rates.

Woolwich Building Society favours postponing cuts until after Christmas. It said: "We think that there most definitely won't be a cut next week, principally because we still have mortgage queues." Although the flow of funds into societies is strong, Woolwich points out that the societies have had only two good months this year.

Police block £5m IRA ransom

By Richard Ford and Stewart Teadler

Police throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland are working together to prevent payment by the Associated British Foods organization of a £5m ransom demanded by the Provisional IRA for the release of their kidnapped executive, Mr Don Tidy.

The ransom demanded by the terrorists last Sunday is the biggest ever made for the safe return of anyone abducted in Ireland, and is needed because the organization is short of cash to run both its military operation and the increasingly widespread campaign of its political wing, the Provisional Sinn Fein.

The demand was made by the telephone to the company's headquarters at Bowater House near Hyde Park.

But the police, and government in the Republic are determined to prevent any money being paid by the firm for the release of Mr Tidy, aged 49, chairman of its Quinsworth chain of stores in the Republic. Mr Tidy, a widower, has two sons and a daughter.

At one stage this week the company is understood to have considered the possibility of paying the ransom but Scotland Yard and the Government stepped in to forbid it. The company was told of the value of the ransom money to the Provisional IRA arsenal.

On Thursday a reply to a question in the House of Lords was used to signal to the IRA that the company would not be allowed to pay the ransom.

The question did not name Mr Tidy but it drew a reply that non-payment of ransoms was not the decision of any individual or company but a government policy.

Last night, the company said that although it would consider most things to get his safe release, they had to take account of the overriding policies of both the Irish and British governments that no demand should be paid.

Officers from the Irish police have been in London for the past week and there has been speculation that Mr Tidy might have been brought to Britain but the police believe he is still somewhere in the Irish Republic. Nor do they accept speculation that the kidnapping is the work of an active service unit in London.

Meanwhile, as detectives were questioning a man in Dublin about the kidnap which is thought to have been plotted in co Kerry, a fleet of small launches was used by detectives to reach uninhabited islands in Lough Mask and Lough Corrib and on the borders of counties Mayo and Galway in the continuing search for Mr Tidy.

The man being questioned is a prominent member of Provisional Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Provisional IRA.

Tighter checks on candidates for honours lists

By Peter Hennessy

The Prime Minister has agreed to a request from the Political Honours Scrutiny Committee that the system be tightened up to prevent suspicions of impropriety and backdoor political patronage. The new procedure has been in operation for some time but full details have not been made public.

The committee of Privy Counsellors was concerned that chairmen of companies which donate to Conservative Party funds, who are honoured for their contribution to industry rather than for political services, could be suspected of receiving peerages or knight-



Quality in an age of change.

Bruce Lee cleared of 11 killings, but convictions on 15 fire victims stand

Bruce Lee, the self-confessed Humberston arsonist, was cleared in the Court of Appeal yesterday of causing the death of eleven elderly men in a fire at an old people's home.

But the decision to quash Lee's convictions for arson and manslaughter in this incident will not mean that he will be freed. He is still detained in a mental hospital for 10 other fires which killed another 15 people.

After a short adjournment during which Mr Harry Ognall QC, Lee's counsel, saw him in the cells before the court, Mr Ognall returned to court and announced that Lee would withdraw his two remaining applications for leave to appeal.

The withdrawn applications related to fires at Askew Avenue, Hull, in June 1973 and West Dock Avenue, Hull, in January 1977. Lord Justice Ackner, sitting with Mr Justice Glidewell and Mr Justice Leggatt, said they would be formally dismissed and the court would give a full judgment next week.

Quashing Lee's convictions of starting a fire at Wensley Lodge, Hull on January 5, 1977, and the manslaughter of the eleven men, Lord Justice Ackner said the conviction were not safe. The main reason was the "unsatisfactory nature of the forensic evidence".

The judge said that the Home Office Scientist, Mr Graham Devenport, should have suggested to the 1977 inquiry into the cause of the fire that it might have been deliberately started with paraffin. If that had been suggested, the construction of the room where the fire was

discovered could have been checked more closely to see if Lee's story about using paraffin and paper to start the fire was supported by the scientific evidence.

Lord Justice Ackner said the court was making no criticism of Det Supt Ronald Sagar, the policeman who interviewed Lee after his arrest.

"We have no doubt that Lee made the statements, both oral and written; that they were voluntarily and properly obtained by Det Supt Sagar and words as he said them," the judge said. Although the prosecution case would have been strong, based on Lee's confessions to the police and others including his own solicitor, the forensic evidence had been "unsatisfactory". It was not safe to allow the convictions to stand.

Lee, aged 23, of Irton House, Cavell Place, Hull, admitted all 11 fires and the manslaughter of 26 people when he appeared before Mr Justice Tudor Evans at Leeds Crown Court in January 1981. He was ordered to be detained indefinitely in a mental hospital. But after *The Sunday Times* investigated his case he began to protest his innocence.

The Court of Appeal hearing, which lasted nine days, opened with Lee seeking leave to appeal against all his convictions. After being refused leave to appeal over fires at homes in Selby Street and Troutbeck House, Hull, Lee's lawyers withdrew six other applications and concentrated on the last three cases.

The court had been told that a committee of inquiry into the Wensley Lodge fire decided that it had been started by a plumber's blowtorch accidentally setting light to ceiling boards.

But, after Lee confessed to the police and told them he started the fire with paraffin, inquiries were reopened. During the appeal, defence experts said that the facts of the fire did not fit Lee's story, which he had denied telling police.

After the hearing Lee's lawyers said they would consider asking the Home Secretary to look into the cases on which he was refused leave to appeal.

Yesterday's court decision means that Lee no longer holds the title "Britain's most prolific killer" given to him by *The Guinness Book of Records*. With 15 deaths still on his record Lee is now equal with Dennis Nilsen, recently convicted of killing 15 people.



Lee: Denied confession.



Family reunion: Police Constable Bill Hopkins, from East Grinstead, organized a surprise for his wife Sylvia at Surrey police headquarters, Guildford, yesterday. He arranged for their son Peter to fly from the United States and play the villain on the last day of his 13-week training course with Shane, his new alsatian.

Witnesses given cash by accused doctor

A doctor accused of serious professional misconduct said yesterday that he had given money to witnesses in his General Medical Council hearing.

Dr Dasrath Rai, aged 61, giving evidence to the professional conduct committee, admitted that after the hearing on Thursday he was approached by drug addicts.

"The first person approached me had no bus fare to go home. I gave him £1.

"A second person came up to me. He was from Worthing and had no money. I gave him £5.

It is alleged that Dr Rai sold prescriptions for hard drugs for £10 or £15 from his former private practice in Bateman Street, Soho, London, other than for bona fide treatment.

Dr Rai told the committee that he had told patients of the dangers of injecting by using Dicanol tablets, a heroin substitute.

"The people that died, injected. They didn't die from the treatment I tried to carry out."

Dr Rai said that he prescribed Dicanol because it was the most convenient drug to wear people off heroin.

"If I found a patient buying drugs on the black market I would take him off my list immediately."

He said that his initial fee was £30, which included a consultation and prescription.

Dr Rai said that he thought he took between £400 and £500 a week from March to October, 1982 - not £1,000 a week.

He denied that he had shown irresponsibility in his treatment of two patients who died.

The hearing continues

Drug safety for elderly tightened

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

The Committee on Safety of Medicines is to tighten the licensing system for new drugs widely used by the elderly after the Opren controversy, the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday.

Drug companies will have to carry out studies on how the elderly cope with the drugs after evidence that Opren accumulated in their bodies.

Opren, used to treat arthritis, was withdrawn in August last year, after it was linked with the deaths of 76 people and after 3,800 people were reported to have suffered significant side effects.

BBC plans nuclear war play

By David Hewson

The BBC is planning a 90-minute drama on the aftermath of a nuclear attack among people in Sheffield. The play, due to be shown in about a year, was commissioned 18 months ago, before the controversy over the American production *The Day After* which will be seen on independent television on December 10.

Mr Michael Jackson, producer of the BBC play, said yesterday: "We have no axe to grind. We have talked to people from CND, people from the Home Office and scientific advisers in Britain and America, to try to come up with the most likely course of events after a nuclear attack."

The play, called *Threads* and written by Barry Hines, the author of *Kes*, starts five weeks before a nuclear attack and ends 15 years after a bomb has dropped on neighbouring Rotherham. Sheffield City Council, which as declared the city a nuclear-free zone, has offered to cooperate with the play's production in the city, which starts in February.

Mr Jackson said that Sheffield was selected as the site of the play because it is where Mr Hines lives, and is in the centre of Britain.

Both Mr Jackson and Mr Hines took part in a home defence college course for local government workers on dealing with post-nuclear Britain, and some scenes of the play tackle the administration of society after the bomb. The play will also describe the effects on the local economy, climate and agriculture.

Britain's teenagers are overwhelmingly pessimistic about the probability of a nuclear war, but also largely ignorant about the nature of nuclear weapons, according to a survey.

A survey published by *IT Times* to mark next week's showing of *The Day After* has revealed that more than half the people aged between 15 and 18 who were questioned thought that a nuclear war would occur in their lifetimes, and 70 per cent thought that one was inevitable one day.

But the 422 teenagers interviewed put little faith in unilateral disarmament. Nearly three quarters felt that it would have no effect on the policies of other countries, but nearly two thirds thought that the presence of nuclear weapons in Britain was no protection from attack.

Dry summer seals Pakamac's fate

By Alan Hamilton

Pakamac, a name synonymous for the past quarter-century with the vagaries of the British weather, has fallen into the hands of the receiver.

By a cruel irony, the very unpredictability of British rain on which the company built its folding plastic raincoat fortune was in the end its downfall; this year's long dry summer dealt sales a mortal blow.

The firm was based, inevitably, in Manchester, the English capital of wet weather. This week two accountants from the firm of Deloitte Haslkins and Sells moved into the company's headquarters at Warwick Mill in Midsalton, north Manchester, to study the books in the hope of selling the business as a going concern.

Pakamac's directors derived little satisfaction from the fact that Mr Frank Mycroft, one of the receivers, arrived at Warwick Mill to assume control of the business with a tightly-rolled Pakamac in his briefcase. From a heyday in the 1950s of selling 48,000 plastic raincoats every week, sales have collapsed to fewer than 4,000 a week.

The company, which has 185 workers, has not made profit since 1977. The original plastic raincoat, invented by a Mancunian called Cohen in the early 1950s, accounts for barely 10 per cent of production. And they are all made in China.

In recent years the company's principal line has been a folding nylon raincoat, actually made in Manchester. But this summer, with few showers on the horizon for weeks on end, demand collapsed.

That was a body blow to Pakamac, which had started the year with a miserable winter and a disappointing spring.

Pakamac had tried recently to reduce its dependence on fluctuating sales governed by summer showers; last year two Pakamac directors, Mr Graham White and Mr Keith Manley, bought the business back from its parent company and tried to introduce more fashionable rainwear lines, but their scheme was ultimately unsuccessful.

When the Pakamac, essentially a plastic bag with sleeves, was introduced in the 1950s it cost 7s 6d and gained immediate popularity with office workers, walkers, golfers and housewives, as a light and convenient alternative to the standard belted gaberdine raincoat of the day. The Chinese-made version is still only £3.95, but the Manchester-made nylon foldaway retails at £13.95.

Severn Bridge critics win reassurance

Mr John Stradling Thomas, Minister of State at the Welsh Office, yesterday denied allegations that the government was "burying its head in the sand" over the problem of the Severn Bridge.

The Government, he said, appreciated the need to strengthen the bridge, to improve alternative routes and to start work on a second crossing of the Severn estuary. Options put forward by engineering consultants were being assessed.

Aid plan for uncommercial new books

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

Book publishers and the Arts Council are working on the formation of a Literature Investment Trust which would subsidise the publication of uncommercial books.

The provisional estimates are that £150,000 would come from the Arts Council and £40,000 from publishers, the secretary general of the council, Mr Luke Ritter, said yesterday.

ITV microcomputer may be launched

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The independent television companies are to decide in about 10 days whether to compete with the success of the BBC Microcomputer and launch their own product.

Although several microcomputer companies have been investigated including Transam, which is based in London, there is a division of opinion among the executives of the television companies. Those who oppose the scheme fear that a commitment to one product would rob them of advertising for competing products.

The Independent Television Companies Association's council meets on December 12. Talks with the Independent

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Aftermath of two jumbo jet disasters

Evidence points to human error as likely cause of Madrid crash

Human error is emerging as the most likely cause of the Boeing 747 crash in the vicinity of Madrid last Sunday, which claimed 181 lives.

The valley of the Jarama river, which has escarpments on either side. The pilot's course deviation took him over a range of low hills some 400ft above the valley floor.

"pull up" alarm of the Ground Proximity Warning System. There is speculation here that Captain Hernandez, who had worked for Avianca for 38 years and had no previous incidents in 35,000 flying hours, might have collapsed at the controls.

It may be several months before the report of the official inquiry into the crash is completed. In the meantime lawyers are already investigating ways in which the victims' families can claim compensation.

KAL relatives press for much more

Korean relatives of victims of the Korean Airlines disaster last September have joined their agnate counterparts in turning down offers of compensation from the airline.

Other expenses have been agreed but beyond that the battle-lines have been drawn in what is likely to be a legal contest lasting years.

The case against KAL is further complicated by an outstanding claim for compensation against the airline from the Murmansk incident of five years ago, when a Soviet fighter fired on a Korean airliner.

The absence of the flight recorder in the case of Flight 007 raises similar difficulties in the present claims.

Astronauts want extra day in space

The six-man crew of the space shuttle Columbia will be told this weekend whether they can remain in space an extra day. Their nine-day mission was originally scheduled to end next Wednesday.

Iran seeks doctors from abroad

Iran is trying hard to attract doctors to come and work here and at the same time improve its image abroad.

Denmark opposes missiles

Denmark has become the second member of Nato to oppose the deployment of US nuclear missiles in Western Europe, the other objector being Greece.

Kohl rejects Pravda accusation

Bonn yesterday rejected Pravda's accusation that Chancellor Helmut Kohl had distorted the contents of President Andropov's letter to him, saying the Chancellor did not retract a single word of his interpretation.

Time limit on damages claims

The Prescription and Limitation (Scotland) Bill, sponsored by Mr Alexander Eadie (Midlothian, Lab) obtained its second reading in the Commons after Mr Peter Fraser, Solicitor General for Scotland, had said it was an important measure of law reform.

Perjury by environment official

Mrs Rita Lavelle, a former Environmental Protection Agency official, has been found guilty of perjury and of impeding congressional investigations into her handling of the agency's programme to clean up hazardous waste sites.

Bill against power sharing adjourned

A Bill seeking to end power-sharing in the Northern Ireland Assembly was tabled out in the Commons by Mr Nicholas Stern, Under Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Russia to spell out line on cruise

Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, the Soviet Chief of Staff, is to spell out the hardline military response to cruise and Pershing at a Moscow press conference on Monday.



Eadie: Basic principle restated more clearly



Stern: Bill against power sharing adjourned



Ogarkov: Russia to spell out line on cruise

Paris prepares for huge anti-racist demonstration today

The largest anti-racist demonstration ever held in France is expected to take place in Paris today at the culmination of a 600-mile march lasting a month and a half by a handful of young Arab immigrants, most of them unemployed.

Late swing may help Caldera

Seven million Venezuelans go to the polls tomorrow to choose a new President, with the results looking far less clear-cut than they did even a few days ago.

Lambsdorff can now be prosecuted

The Bundestag formally voted yesterday to lift parliamentary immunity on Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the Economics Minister, so that the Bonn public prosecutor can serve an accusation of corruption on him.



Kohl rejects Pravda accusation



Follett: Denmark opposes missiles



Follett: Denmark opposes missiles



Lavelle: Perjury by environment official



Lavelle: Perjury by environment official



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Tory rebels give boost to Thatcher 'no deal, no cash' message to EEC

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The Tory rebels who abstained or voted against the Government on Thursday night in the debate on the EEC budget have done sterling service for Mrs Margaret Thatcher. Their message is precisely the one which she will be delivering forcefully from the time the European summit opens in Athens tomorrow afternoon to the time it ends some 48 hours later.

The message is: No deal - no money. In other words, if the British Government and Parliament cannot be satisfied with the outcome of this crisis summit, there is no chance at all of the Community being given the extra cash it must have if it is not to go bankrupt, stagnate and disintegrate.

That has been the British message ever since the Stuttgart summit in June. It has been the *leitmotif* of Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mr Nigel Lawson through the 11 very long days of complicated negotiation which they have slogged their way through on the way to the summit. It is only in the course of the last week, however, that the message appears to have got through. If there were any doubt at all remaining the vote in Westminster should have dispelled it.

The British delegation is travelling to Athens with no illusions that the argument is going to be easy to win. "Experience has taught us that it is better to approach these negotiations, not with optimism or pessimism, but with determination," and official said yesterday.

Mrs Thatcher, who will be attending her fourteenth summit will be the most experienced in the ways of the EEC of all the leaders in Athens. Underlying all the argument so far has been a mercenary clash of philosophies between those countries who believed the Community could spend its way out of trouble and those countries who would have had to provide the cash to do this. The would-be spenders were not net contributors to the EEC Budget.

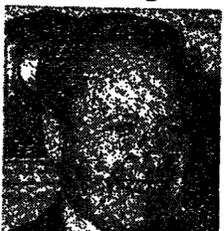
What has happened in the course of the past week is that France has come down very firmly and clearly on the side of good housekeeping by tabling a paper on how to impose budgetary control. That has made the other countries realize at last that the spending has to stop.

France timed its sophisticated paper for publishing very carefully. It arrived in time for the summit.

but too late to be tampered with by the Greek Presidency. If the approach it sets out is accepted by the summit - and the signs are that this could well happen - then detailed negotiation on it would take place next year when France is in the chair.

The French move has left the other countries with little choice. Either they accept a system of budgetary control, or they risk a failure at Athens which could destroy the Community.

Two VIPs at Downing St



Mr Thorn: Visited 10 capitals for views.

There are still many detailed, difficult and divisive battles to be fought before there can be any final agreement. But if Athens can reach what British officials describe as "suitably specific" conclusions, then it ought to be possible for the next summit in Brussels in March to put the seal of approval to a package of measures which will create the "Europe of the second generation" which all agree is now essential if the Community is to survive.

Those "suitably specific" conclusions would have to be clear enough for Mrs Thatcher to be absolutely certain that there would be meaningful controls on Community spending and that Britain would not have to make a net contribution to the Community larger than a modest 0.1 per cent of the gross domestic product. At present levels that would be about £270m a year.

Only against such cast-iron assurances would Mrs Thatcher be prepared to consider recommending to the British Parliament that there should be an increase in the so-called "VAT ceiling".

At present, member-states are required to pay up to 1 per cent of value added tax receipts from a common basket of goods and services. That money is now not enough to meet the bills, and there will have to be a higher VAT rate if it is ever going to be possible to bring in Spain and Portugal, introduce new policies or even go on paying existing costs - hence the crisis.

If that ceiling is raised, Sir Geoffrey made clear to the Commons during the debate. That is because it would only agree to raising the ceiling if it won an adequate reduction in its contributions. One cloud on the horizon is the European Parliament, which meets the following week to 'carry out a post mortem on the summit. It has given a warning that it might throw next year's budget out if insufficient progress is made, but the threat seems somewhat empty.

LONDON: Mrs Thatcher made it clear she was sticking hard to her ultra-tough line during an hours talk with Mr Gaston Thorn, the President of the EEC Commission, in Downing Street yesterday (Patricia Clough writes).

"The English are more European than we think in France and more than in the past," he said at the end of a three-day "private" visit filled with meetings with public figures, including Mrs Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary

and Mr Jacques Chirac, the largest-than-life, chain-smoking Mayor of Paris and leader of the Gaullist RPR Party, declared himself surprised yesterday, at the end of a visit to London, at the extent of Britain's commitment to Europe (Our Foreign Staff writes).

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Freedom wave: Mr Heineken (left) and Mr Doderer, his chauffeur, released on Wednesday.

Heineken tells how he lay chained in cell

Amsterdam (Reuter) - Mr Alfred Heineken, the Dutch brewery chief rescued by police from kidnapers on Wednesday, told yesterday how he lay chained for three weeks in a cold, damp cell, trying to stay alive.

Mr Heineken, aged 60, one of the richest men in Europe, gave his first public account of his ordeal in a statement released by his company.

He said he had only one warm meal a day and an occasional bucket of water to wash in. He used a broken plastic fork to comb his hair. He hardly saw his single, masked jailer, who insisted on communicating mainly by sign language and notes.

Mr Heineken's chauffeur, Mr Ab Doderer, who was held in an adjoining cell

in an Amsterdam warehouse, said in a separate statement that he invented exercises to try and keep active, despite his chains.

Nine of the 20 people still held in connection with the kidnapping were released yesterday. Police said they were satisfied the five women and four men had nothing to do with it.

Police are still seeking three men, at least two of whom are believed to be in Spain, and about \$9m (£4.5m) of an \$11m ransom payment.

Police, who watched the kidnapers for some days before the ransom payment and rescue, believe they held at least four of the organizers of the crime.

Mr Heineken said he spent much of his waking time in his cell pondering or reading by the light of a single, poor bulb.

"There was no daylight apart from through a single small hole in the ceiling," his statement said. "My left hand was chained fast, so my freedom of movement was almost nil."

They said they realized they were held close to each other only after four days. Mr Doderer said he realized he was being rescued when he heard a voice say: "Damn, there is no match," and he guessed that police were trying to break in.

Both men said they were in good health, and Mr Heineken added that he had kept his sense of humour during captivity "although there wasn't much chance to exercise it".

Botha defies the West on reforms

By Leslie Plummer

Mr R. F. Pik Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, declared in London yesterday that his Government would not make changes based on external demands amounting to a recipe for "capitulation" by the South African administration.

He was "sick" of complaints from abroad and tired of "hypocritical and false moral attitudes" held by some Governments in Europe and elsewhere towards South Africa.

But Mr Botha's visit to London as part of a tour of Western capitals has apparently taken some of the heat out of South Africa's relations with the British Government. Nevertheless, neither side has changed its position as a result of his hour-long talk yesterday with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

The two also met informally last night at the South African Embassy.

Both ministers had been expecting a stormy session yesterday.

Pretoria forestalls Seychelles plot

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Another attempt to form a mercenary force to carry out a coup d'etat in the Seychelles is being investigated by police in South Africa.

Mr Louis Le Grange, Minister of Law and Order, said in a statement in Pretoria yesterday that five people have been detained and are being interrogated by the security police. They included British and Zimbabwe citizens.

Mr Le Grange said the South African Government took a serious view of the alleged plan and was "not prepared to allow any such developments to take place within this country."

According to the police information the plan was instigated by people living in Britain representing a Seychelles exile organization, the Mouvement Pour la Résistance.

In November, 1981, a group of mercenaries recruited in South Africa and led by Colonel Michael "Mad Mike" Hoare staged an unsuccessful attempt to overthrow the Seychelles

Rapists plea against castration

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Three men convicted in South Carolina of raping and torturing a woman are appealing against the extraordinary and controversial sentence passed on them. The judge said they could choose between 30 years in jail or surgical castration.

The sentence has been strongly praised and fiercely criticized. Castration is favoured by advocates of tougher official attitudes to criminals, but it is condemned by others as barbaric and unconstitutional.

The judge's critics say: "If, as a society, we say it is all right to castrate rapists, we might also agree that we should offer thieves the choice between jail and having a hand cut off."

The rape case shocked the small town of Anderson. Judge Victor Pyle said it was the "most horrible" he had ever heard. The three men - aged 27, 21 and 19 - pleaded guilty to raping a 23-year-old woman over a period of six hours in a motel. She was also burnt with a cigarette lighter and lost four pints of blood.

Judge Pyle has said he will not change the sentence. He claims it is fair because the three are not being forced to submit to castration - they have a choice.

The men have appealed against the sentence and their lawyers have advised them not to make a choice in the meantime. If castrated, they would go on probation for five years.

Many people are disturbed by the idea that violent men could go free after castration or that mutilation could be considered an alternative to a jail sentence.

The director of a rape advice centre in South Carolina said rape is a crime of violence rather than of sex. She said castration of rapists had an emotional appeal, but there was a danger that castrated men might be even more violent after the operation.

Other opponents of the sentence suggest castration might not necessarily prevent men having sex and raping again.

Basques bomb US targets

San Sebastian (Reuter) - Basque separatist guerrillas, in the worst campaign against US interests in the region for many years, bombed eight American targets causing extensive damage but no injuries.

The bombs exploded on Thursday night in Coca Cola plants here and in Pamplona, at the offices of the NCR computer company in San Sebastian and in Vitoria and at a Pepsi-Cola plant in Vitoria.

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Proconsul ape did not reign alone

Nairobi - Remains of a 17 million-year-old ape-like creature, discovered recently in northern Kenya, are expected to lead to a revision of existing theories about the earliest ancestors of man and apes (Charles Harrison writes).

Mr Richard Leakey, director of the National Museums of Kenya, said here yesterday that the latest finds, made in a waterless area close to the Ethiopian border a few weeks ago, were "clearly distinct" from the proconsul ape, which is known to have existed at the same period and hitherto was to be the earliest ancestor of all primates and man.

Now it seems that the proconsul was not alone - but lived alongside a different creature, twice the size of proconsul, and with a quite different jaw and facial characteristics.

First news of the finds was given in Washington by an American professor, Alan Walker, who took part in the expedition. The announcement angered Mr Leakey.

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Flynt held for trying to flee

Anchorage (Reuter) - Mr Larry Flynt, the sex magazine publisher, saying he wanted to go to Moscow to give President Andropov a cancer cure, flew to Alaska yesterday - and was promptly arrested and ordered back to Los Angeles.

He was detained for breaking an order not to leave the jurisdiction of a Los Angeles court, which is fining him £12,500 a day for refusing to reveal the source of a tape recording involving the car maker John De Lorean.

Dog deadline

Peking (AP) - Dog owners in Peking have been given three more weeks to get rid of their pets voluntarily before the authorities enforce a ban on them. Despite official claims that extermination teams have killed 200,000 dogs in the past six weeks, there have been no reported sightings of the extermination squads.

Briton freed

Johannesburg (Reuter) - Mr David Rabkin, a British journalist who was jailed in 1976 for 10 years for offences under South Africa's terrorism and internal security laws, has been freed, three years before his sentence expired.

Dingo case

Canberra (Reuter) - The Australian High Court reserved judgment on the final appeal of Lindy Chamberlain against a life sentence for murdering her baby daughter in the so-called Dingo murder case. Chamberlain, aged 35, jailed in April, had maintained that a dingo snatched her baby.

Nazi centre

Bonn (Reuter) - Parliament approved a motion by the opposition Social Democrats to establish a public documentation and information centre chronicling the Nazi persecution of Jews and other people.

Former spy chief held in bribes case

From John Earle, Rome

General Giuseppe Santovito, former head of Italian military intelligence and a member of the banned P2 Masonic lodge, was arrested here early yesterday on orders of a magistrate investigating a Mafia-type bribery case.

The central figure in the case is Signor Alvaro Giardilli, a businessman arrested a month ago and accused of being involved in offering bribes for two contracts, one to rebuild houses after the Naples earthquake of 1980, the other to conduct an aerial photographic survey of Sicily.

The authorities have given no details of the charge against General Santovito or of his alleged involvement in the Giardilli investigation.

After his arrest, the general's wife, Giulietta, said: "A plot is under way against my husband and his arrest is the proof."

Arrests and curfew in Bangladesh

Ershad in fear of army coup

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

Lieutenant-General Ershad has stamped hard on the dissenting political parties in Bangladesh following the bloody demonstrations in Dhaka and Chittagong. The leadership of the main parties is either arrested or on the run. Heavily armed soldiers man key intersections in the capital. A curfew was in force last night for seven hours from 10pm.

The permission for the resumption of political activity which General Ershad generously announced as the Queen's aircraft was approaching Zia international airport at the beginning of her state visit here a fortnight ago has been hurriedly scrapped.

But yesterday, the presence of troops patrolling the streets was considerably diminished from the previous two days. On Wednesday and Thursday soldiers were evident everywhere in the city.

On Friday, the Muslim Sunday, the streets were much less crowded and the soldiers

more discreet. The day also saw the arrival of officials from the countries attending the Islamic foreign ministers conference due to begin here next week.

It is the first big international conference that Bangladesh has hosted, and the presence of so many distinguished foreigners may be the reason for both the heavy clampdown and now the apparent discretion of the forces.

It is felt likely by Bangladeshi observers that the politicians will lie low now until the foreign ministers' conference is over but that political agitation will be resumed with a vengeance after that.

Among leaders of the political movement who have been arrested are the two women leaders of the principal opposition parties, Shaikh Hasina Wajed, daughter of Bangladesh's first Prime Minister, and Begum Khalida Zia, the widow of the assassinated President Zia ur-Rahman.

Mr Tips Biswas, a Maoist and former Naxalite, who now

supports Begun Zia, has also been arrested together with Mrs Iry Rahman, wife of the former secretary-general of the Awami League - Shaikh Hasina's party - and Mrs Sajeda Chandhury, the present acting secretary-general of the League.

Official figures show that over 600 people have been arrested altogether. Most of them were picked up in Dhaka and Chittagong.

General Ershad, who seized power 20 months ago and dismissed the elected President, has promised to return the country to democratic rule. He has announced that a presidential election will be held next May and parliamentary elections in November.

It appears that one possible fear of General Ershad's is that the unity of the armed forces could be undermined, and that he could be replaced, not necessarily by a democratic government, but by another general.

Druze in mourning for shaikh

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Hundreds of Druze gathered in West Beirut yesterday to mourn their murdered chief jurist, Shaikh Halim Takiyeddine, and to call on the Government to find his murderer. Druze women walked silently past Shaikh Takiyeddine's body, in a simple wooden coffin, at a Druze centre.

In Tripoli, a spokesman for Mr Yassar Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman, said Syria had turned down a request to guarantee the safety of an International Red Cross ship due into the port to transport wounded Arafat loyalists for treatment elsewhere.

The accusation could not be confirmed independently.

NEW YORK: The mandate of the UN peacekeeping forces on the Golan Heights has been extended for six months by the Security Council (Zoriana Pysarski writes).

Dr Runcie in China as a friend

From Our Correspondent, Peking

Peking (Reuter) - The Archbishop of Canterbury arrived in Peking yesterday on the first official visit to China by the spiritual head of the Anglican church.

Dr Runcie said: "We shall bring messages of friendship not only from Anglicans but from other Christians because we represent them all."

A spokesman said the church had a role in creating trust and understanding over the future of Hongkong after the lease on most of the British colony expires in 1997.

Dr Runcie made an unofficial visit to China in January, 1982, when he went to a Protestant seminary in Nanjing but did not come to Peking.

Asked whether he would raise the issue of four Chinese Catholic priests who have been imprisoned for refusing to renounce ties with the Vatican, the Archbishop said: "We will see what we shall raise when we see what the programme is."

Junta did not expect a war

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

The latest published excerpts from the top-secret Rattenbach report on Argentina's defeat in the Falklands war reveal that the junta which ordered the occupation of the islands did not seriously consider the possibility that Britain would react with military force.

The weekly magazine *Siete Dias* published on Wednesday the second instalment of excerpts from the military's definitive investigation of the war, which strongly condemns the decision to seize the islands and states that confused strategic planning led the country into a war for which it was not prepared.

A British reaction, including the massive use of military force, was considered "impossible" by the military and civilian officials who planned the Argentine occupation, the report says.

In a nine-month study of the war, the special military commission which drafted the report found that the military junta began planning an invasion of the Falklands as early as January 12, 1982, several months before Argentine workmen on South Georgia triggered a diplomatic incident which led to the war.

In its last scheduled meeting before turning over power to the

Government's own investigation of who was responsible for the Falklands war.

As President, Señor Alfonsín will have the final word on the fate of those military officers court-martialed by the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces. That court-martial has begun summary proceedings but will probably take several months to pass a verdict on those indicted by the Rattenbach report.

There are only 10 copies of the 300-page report in existence, and *Siete Dias* said it had access to the copy sent to the current junta.

Time to talk, says Steel

By Our Political Editor

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, said yesterday that failure to pursue negotiations with Argentina over the Falkland Islands would be to abandon a crucial opportunity presented by Argentina's return to democracy.

Speaking to members of Edinburgh University Air Squadron, he said that a policy of "Fortress Falklands", made necessary by war, was no long

term answer and was profoundly damaging to Britain's national defence commitments. The economic burden of defending the islands, at about £750m a year, was more than the total air defence cost of Britain.

There had been a "clear re-emergence of hostilities and the future use of force" by Argentina. Continuation of hostilities could only lead to greater defence spending.



The best gift for many children this Christmas is the gift of life. A bowl of food for a starving boy in Ethiopia. A nurse's care for a sick child in Uganda. Father Christmas can't make it happen. You can. They need food, medicine and shelter now. Five pounds will feed the little boy for a month. Twenty pounds will help to build a new life for that child in Uganda. This Christmas spare a thought for these and many other children. Please send a donation to The Save the Children Fund using this coupon or ansaphone 01-701 0894 for Access/Barclaycard.

To: The Save the Children Fund, Dept. 3231214, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD. I enclose £ () (see please, if you need a receipt). Or debit my Access/Barclaycard No. Or you can send through National Giro No. 5173000. Signature: Name: Address: Save the Children

SPORTING DIARY

Potent penalty

A warning to all footballers: do not score a hat-trick. A man can get himself sent off that way. Referee Clive "The Book" Thomas of Portcawl has vowed that players doing too much celebrating after scoring will be warned for the first offence, booked for the second and sent off for the third.

Hard Times

Spare a thought for Paul Harrison. For the first time in three seasons of reporting on volleyball for The Times, he had a real news story: mighty Speedwell Rucanor's run of 79 wins ended last weekend. Unfortunately, the paper didn't appear.

Orient excess

The Orient Express trip to Cheltenham for the Gold Cup will set you back £120, but don't try to sneak on board without a ticket. On last year's trip to Cheltenham there was one stowaway on the outward journey and two on the return; they were escorted to the baggage compartment and set down at the first convenient point. There were also two stowaways on the Hennessy Gold Cup trip to Newbury last weekend, but they both coughed up and the Injured Jockeys' Fund benefited from their transgression.

Red letter day

Officials in East Germany are unhappy about their visa application forms for the Olympic Games in Los Angeles next summer and have sent a letter of protest to the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee. The forms put membership of the communist party in the same category as drug addiction and contagious diseases.

BARRY FANTONI



'At least we get good reception on Radio Luxembourg'

Dressed to kilt

Darts players are ready to cast aside their embroidered maternity smocks and don dinner suits. A tobacco company plans to sponsor a smoother, up-market game of darts. The worrying news is that Jocky Wilson will wear a kilt. "I've got the legs for it," he says.

Swanning about

And the result of the varsity match is: Cambridge University 100 points (15 goals 10 behinds; Oxford 51 points (seven goals, nine behinds). The match, played at Trinity College new field recently, was of course Australian Rules football. For some unfathomable reason, Swan Lager were asked to sponsor the occasion, and did so with a warm heart and cold tinies.

Quote of the Week: Even if the club goes bust, it is better than moving to Milton Keynes - Tom Hunt, spokesman for Luton Town Supporters Club.

Starting Price

If the bookies trembled at Fontwell Park last week, who can blame them? The effervescent former trainer Ryan Price was making his first trip to the races for 14 months after being laid low by illness. A blow to see such a man on the sidelines but for all that every Price-trained horse I backed seemed to lose. Captain Price will be able to live with that, however. For 20 years he has consistently managed to maintain that he never bets.

Nice one, Fred

Freddie Trueman has probably caused more ripples to be dropped through more french windows than any other sport commentator. He is a man renowned for his discerning, and above all, generous criticism of the modern fast bowler. My favourite example of Trueman at his best has always been his remark: "I should be ashamed to draw my pay if I bowled like that in a Test. The worst bowling with a new ball I've ever seen. That was at Old Trafford in 1981 and the bowler criticized was Bob Willis. In his next six overs, the Goose took three wickets.

Now I learn of another fine example of Trueman at work. Commenting on a match between Australia and West Indies, with Australia 100 for two, Trueman said: "Winston Davis knows he can never be a fast bowler." Australia all out for 151, Davis seven for 51.

Simon Barnes

Bernard Levin at the Royal Academy



Carpaccio's Lion: from the Doge's Palace to pride of place in Piccadilly

A vastness of Venice but still not enough

There was I, in the Royal Academy, standing in front of Titian's The Flaying of Marsyas and doing no harm to anybody, when up comes Professor John "Hille himself and seizes my arm. "By thy long grey beard and glittering eye," I inquired, "now wherefore stopp'st thou me?" He held me with his glittering eye (I could not choose but hear), and thus spake on that ancient man, the bright-eyed Mariner. "You must write," he said, "an entire article about this picture." I demurred, but he thought it only right to give my reasons. "I fear thee, ancient Mariner," I remarked, "I fear thy skinny hand. And," I added, "thou art long, and lank, and brown, as is the ribbed sea-sand."

It starts, as well it might, with the Barbi map of Venice, and goes on with Carpaccio's Lion of St Mark, ripped from the wall of the Doge's Palace to delight Londoners. Then, after an account of the second Battle of Lepanto (one of the reasons, dear reader, why you and I are not Mohammedans), the visitor turns right, through an archway.

Pause in that opening. It is the first of a series, all in line; look, therefore, straight across the long gallery that lies before you, across the next room and the next. The eye fetches up against the far wall of the last gallery in the series. There, dead ahead of you but 40 yards away, is a Lorenzo Lotto, of St Christopher with the Christ-child, that you simply will not believe possible. Ignore the riches to right and left - there is plenty of time - and march straight towards the Lotto, convinced that as you get closer it will prove to be a striking but ordinary picture. You will find that, on the contrary, your first impression from a distance conveyed no more than a hint of the roaring furnace of energy and colour that the canvas holds.

There is no painting by Carpaccio other than the Lion, but there are three drawings, and one of them will make every Carpaccio-lover, and indeed every Venice-lover, howl with the yearning to go at once to the Scuola di S. Giorgio degli Schiavoni, for it is a sketch of what became the last picture in the St Jerome series there, little white dog and all.

The painting is "of great chromatic intensity".

Retrace your steps. Enter the first gallery you looked across to see the Lotto. It is bulging with Titians; the exhibition includes 20 of his paintings, together with eight drawings. Leave out the Marsyas, on which we shall never agree, and come and stand with me before the Portrait of Bassucio Farnese without moving your feet you can see also his Portrait of Two Boys and his Tarquin and Lucretia (another late picture, but without the dangerously free draughtsmanship that makes me uneasy in the Marsyas); no great distance away is his Portrait of Cristoforo Madruzzo. These people cry out with the life in them; not Rembrandt himself born 20 years after Titian died, set the blood pulsing more strongly through his figures, and the virility in Titian is a quality shared by almost all these Venetians.

Titian is represented almost as simply as Titian; so is Veronese, on whom I do not score more than any of the other artists of Venice (would that it had been possible to remove the end wall of Gallery X from the Accademia and bring it here to show us his Supper at the House of Levi, at 42 feet of it; Lotto, Moroni, Bassano, Perugino, Palma Vecchio, Pordenone - all these artists are shown about the Royal Academy until next March, as though the lenders didn't love them, which in the case of the Accademia often seems to be true.

We see the work of some of the most confident artists in all history, painting, living and working in a polity that has not yet lost its overweening confidence in its own power, riches and endurance. They

I could go on for hours picking plums out of the pie, but this exhibition is not just a collection of masterpieces; it is the gorgeous surface of Venice in the days of her swelling pride and assured achievement. The century had begun in defeat; the coalition of Italian states, angered and frightened by the apparently irresistible growth of Venetian power, had allied themselves with the Turks, who destroyed a Venetian fleet at the first Battle of Lepanto in 1499 and imposed humiliating terms on the arrogant republic.

The sixteenth century is the story of how Venice regained her former position; 72 years after the first Lepanto, she had her revenge at the second.

Cervantes on his galley sets the sword back in the sheath (Don John of Austria rides homeward with a wreath). And he sees across a weary land a straggling road in Spain.

Up which a lean and foolish knight forever rides in vain. And he smiles, but not as Sultans smile, and settles back the blade... (But Don John of Austria rides home from the Crusade). Long before the century's close, of course, the seeds of decay had begun to sprout; by the end of the seventeenth century Venice was worn-out, eaten through and through, and it was an empty shell that Napoleon blew down with a single breath. Let us be thankful that nobody concerned in this exhibition wanted to take it to the middle of the eighteenth century, so that we would have seen Canaletto and Tiepolo fiddling while Venice burned.

We see the work of some of the most confident artists in all history, painting, living and working in a polity that has not yet lost its overweening confidence in its own power, riches and endurance. They

were not, the geniuses who adorn the Academy, court painters in any sense; they had to watch their step, of course, and Venetians got into frightful trouble with the Inquisition for Supper at the House of Levi itself, being accused of blasphemy for the wonderful informality of it all. And an artist painting a great nobleman of the city would not have put the warts in even if the sitter had asked him to. But no one can go to The Genius of Venice and fail to realize that these men knew their own quality, and thought it no shame to demonstrate what they knew. If you doubt me, go back and take another look at the Lotto St Christopher.

The exhibition is vast, but I would have liked it vaster; I would like to have seen more of the objects - glass, jewelry, furniture of sixteenth century Venice, some of the finest sculptures, most of them small, which hint at what we are missing. But this is greed on my part, as is my feeling that invisible orchestras should be gently playing Monteverdi as we go round. What we have is magnificent, for it is a demonstration of a century of art that makes statements as great as any and unambiguous about its time and place as does the voice of Renaissance Florence, or for that matter the Funeral Oration of Pericles and Shakespeare's Histories. (The catalogue, in scope and quality, is fully worthy of what it records.)

On the whole, the artists of sixteenth century Venice did not paint their own history or their own time, apart from what can be read from their portraits; Campeggio's John was the republic's sign-manual, it is true, but he is in heaven at this moment for the St Jerome and the St Ursulas. All the same, it is history, and not just art history, that floods Burlington House, and from the moment we see the Barbi at the entrance we are part of another world, another time, and we remain conscious of that otherness through every step we take. It is said that the Royal Academy has gambled heavily on this exhibition, which can either restore its fortunes or bring it close to disaster, according to whether it is a success or a failure. It deserves to be the greatest success in the Academy's history, as for Professor Hale, the Academicians should make him a present of the Michelangelo London to put on his mantelpiece.

The Venice exhibition ends on March 11.

J. Enoch Powell

Time to ring round our illusions

It is 23 years since Britain announced that "the recognition and maintenance of the independence, territorial integrity and security of the Republic of Cyprus" was in the common interest of itself, Greece and Turkey.

Part of Cyprus has now seceded from the republic and declared itself an independent republic. This does not appear to be a breach of the treaty, since none of the four parties to it have apparently failed to prohibit activity aimed at producing that outcome. So what has happened? We protested and we condemned the secession; but if the inhabitants of northern Cyprus do not, as it appears they do not, wish to be part of the Republic of Cyprus, what justification have we for saying they ought not to have their way? What British interest, whether or not a "common" interest with Greece or Turkey, is served by our condemnation or disapproval of what has happened?

Our interests in 1983 are not the same as were our interests in 1960. It does not matter a fig to us whether Cyprus comprises two republics or one republic. Even supposing that the residual republic tried to vent its displeasure upon us by calling the sovereign base areas into doubt, the question would still have to be answered: what British interest do the base areas serve?

So far from the bases being a British interest in 1983, they are a menace to our interest. The detachment of 100 British soldiers in Lebanon is evidence, by its insignificance, that no real British interest there is at stake and that no physical British effort is being exerted.

It is also evidence of the assumed imperative of British policy - that wherever the United States gets into a scrape we must arrange to get some of the egg on our own face. The sovereign base areas were not literally essential for marooning our 100 men in Lebanon. But although not physically essential, they are still psychologically effective, in sustaining the delusion that Britain has a presence in the Levant.

British policy has not yet come to terms with the modern facts of geopolitics. In a military sense our real power and interests may be represented by concentric rings with the point of the compass upon the United Kingdom, rings in which power and interest diminish progressively in inverse ratio to the square of the distance from the centre. The inner rings extend over Western Europe and up to the Arctic Circle, and a sort of bulge carries them far out into the Atlantic by the time Eastern Europe and the Middle East are reached; they have become so faint as to be invisible. Whatever happens there and farther east and south will be neither

Roy Strong

Essentially English, with a new vitality

Just before the last war my late mother-in-law's nanny had a farm outside Henley from which "a nice young Mr Piper" used to give her lifts into town. That marked my wife's first awareness of the artist John Piper.

Mine was that of a generation which grew up on King Penguins and Penguin Modern Painters. The former, which appeared in 1950, was the volume dedicated to the Romney Marsh with its watercolours of landscapes and buildings already executed in that idiosyncratic alliance of crayon, wash and ink which Piper developed over the years as his particular vehicle for interpreting the countryside. The latter came out earlier, in 1948, and included two of the great series commissioned by the Queen Mother during the war, of Windsor Castle, which now adorn the library at Clarence House and of which legend has it that George VI remarked "I'm sorry that you had such bad weather, Mr Piper".

I was also hypnotised by one of his earliest theatre designs for the ballet The Quest. I remember Doris Langley Moore later telling me she had to concoct a patriotic plot in order to get Ashton out of the army to appear - and what better source than Book One of the Faerie Queen.

These are early impressions made on an adolescent by an artist whose 80th birthday we now celebrate. There can have been few so prolific in this century, literally thousands of drawings, paintings, graphic works, theatre design, stained glass, photography and ceramics. What small verse can I possibly add to the hymn of praise now arising?

What I wish to sing about may seem a small and very insular thing, Piper's very Englishness. The work of other giants of his generation - Moore, Hepworth, Sutherland or Nicholson - could, in the main, be plucked down anywhere. They are products of international modernism. Their imagery and iconography have been less tempered by the vast literary and visual heritage of their own country. Piper has never turned his back on that and, to a degree, has, as a result, offered an antidote to the "aerial experience" of the "liberating airborn movement", of free ascent and descent, as a necessity of the imagination, as part of our very notion of what "freedom" is. In that sense, Piper is a kind of metaphor of this human aspiration.

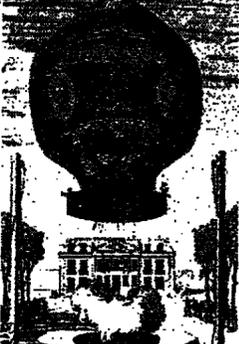
It lifts us into a renewed world, both perilous and beautiful. Its touch of absurdity is part of its charm and truth. Our future skies need balloons, far more than they need missiles. We must learn to dance in the air again.

Piper: elegies and polemics forms the least attractive aspect of Pevsner's mighty series. The Beitman-Piper approach is romantic and historical, totally un-Germanic, in fact rather dilettante and literary. And, as in the case of the topographical work, this forms a peculiarly English way of looking at things.

I shall always remember my first glimpse of John and Myfanwy Piper in the early 1970s. It was a golden late summer evening. As we approached the flint farmhouse they sat together on a wooden bench at a table on which Myfanwy was settling into an earthenware crock peas that John (a brilliant gardener) had grown. On the table stood glasses and a bottle of wine from the Sitwell castle of Montegufoni. Over their heads was a huge old bleached sundial. It was a scene so simple, domestic and totally unaffected, speaking of security and serenity but with a respect for the innate nobility of common things typical of Stubbs. To me it summed up all that was most true in the art of John Piper. The author is Director of the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Burn-ups in slow motion

Two hundred years ago the first manned balloon took off from Paris on its maiden flight (right), carrying with it man's hope of liberation from his earth-bound existence. Richard Holmes looks back to those pioneers of gasbag grandeur and reflects on its jet-age renaissance



There is something about ballooning that goes to the head; and I don't mean the champagne. When the very first man-carrying Montgolfiere - a gorgeous blue and gold creation, 75-feet high, with the Signs of the Zodiac emblazoned round its crown - rose up from the Bois de Boulogne in November 1783, the crowd below burst into applause and song. As the balloon passed over Les Invalides at 300 feet, the pilot, Rozier, felt an unexpected vibration in the Montgolfiere's circular gallery (the classic balloon basket had yet to be designed). De Rozier called out to his companion, the Marquis d'Arlandes, hidden from him on the far side of the balloon. "What are you doing, Monsieur? Are you having a dance, perhaps?"

Anyone who has ever travelled in a balloon can quite believe that he was. It is an intoxicating experience. My own first flight was made from a field in Normandy, in a red and white striped "Montgolfier moderne" called Les Quatre Vents. With its roaring propane burner, and huge stately canopy overhead, it was like riding on a cross between a dragon and a cloud.

Men had flown in their dreams, of course, long before this. Chinese flying chariots, Arabian magic carpets, and a rich variety of bird-drawn ships, ten-league magic boots, and canisters of incandescent fairy dust had come to their aid. Leaving aside the somewhat sketchy data on the flights of Icarus and Ariel, we may note that King Bladud (father of King Lear) was killed in a crash-landing on the Temple of Apollo in 852 BC, while Oliver of Malmesbury died tower-jumping with bird's wings in 1020 AD - the first of many such feathered fatalities.

In 1638, the Bishop of Hereford, perhaps the most poetic of all dream flyers, had more success flying to the moon in a harness of wild swans. And Cyrano de Bergerac, an early proponent of solar energy, rose effortlessly to the stars in an

aerodynamic belt of glass globes containing melting dew. Regular pious levitations were also performed by many medieval Italian saints rising out of their choir stalls in the odour of sanctity. These spectacular achievements all tended to overshadow the helicopters and parachutes of Leonardo da Vinci that were quietly entered into his notebooks and ignored for centuries.

But to fly for real: this added a wholly new dimension to human hopes. The intrepid balloonists (the adjective became their exclusive patent) created a new kind of folk hero for western scientific culture. The late eighteenth century balloon craze was first dominated by showmen like Blanchard and Lunardi. "You will observe, Madam, that the balloon engages all mankind," remarked Johnson weightily to Mrs Thrale.

But with the nineteenth century came more deliberate pioneers and inventors. Among many one may pick out the Godard family (including Fanny Godard who flew in white silk tights), a firm that eventually built the Paris Siege balloons; Glaisher and Cowell, who flew above 30,000 feet without oxygen; writing cool, impeccable notes about their blackout; Nadar who invented aerial photography; and John Wise who discovered the "jetstreams" of the upper air and first ballooned right across America. Many of their stories are retold in a 300-page classic, with beautiful illustrations by Tissandier (himself a great balloonist), Travels in the Air (1871) by Glaisher and de Fonvielle.

individualism that made them flamboyant prophets of the scientific age. They had the meticulousness of the technocrat, and the mildly deranged romanticism of the poet. Most characteristic of them all, perhaps, was the Swedish engineer Salomon August Andre, who mounted an expedition to fly across the North Pole in 1897, and was lost in the Arctic wastes.

Andre's flight diary was miraculously recovered with his body, and those of his two companions, years later beneath the ice of White Island, east of Spitzbergen, in 1930. It contains the following entry, made on July 14, 1897, while hanging 99 feet above the northern pack ice: "It is not a little strange to be floating here above the Polar Sea. To be the first that have floated here in a balloon. How soon, I wonder, shall we have successors? Shall we be thought mad, or shall our example be followed? I cannot deny but all three of us are dominated by a feeling of pride. We think we can well face death, having done what we have done. Is not the whole, perhaps, the expression of an extremely strong sense of individuality, which cannot bear the thought of living and dying like a man in the ranks, forgotten by coming generations? Is this ambition? The rattling of the guidelines in the snow and the flapping of the sails are the only sounds heard, except the whining of the wind in the basket."

This moving passage seems to sum up so much of the heroism of those early aeronauts, and their passionate belief in scientific progress. Yet it is also shadowed by an awareness of hubris, a sense of the Quixotic nature of their endeavours. For ballooning has always had its

Quixotic aspect, part comic and part catastrophic. The spectacular airship crashes of the 1930s convinced most people that the future lay with fixed-wing aircraft. The balloon in the twentieth century came to seem like one of the romantic dead-ends of scientific history, a reject of evolution, just like the pterodactyl and the dodo, not to mention the dragon. For years its main commercial use was in the advertising blimp, a sad and somnolent demise.

Yet the balloon, like the phoenix, was very far from burnt out. Since the 1960s it has undergone a fantastic renaissance, both as a sporting and exploratory vehicle. The discovery of helium, and much more sophisticated understanding of meteorology, all have revolutionized the balloonist's art. There are flourishing balloon clubs and federations in every country in Western Europe. (The East is apparently more problematic, though a famous balloon escape took place over the East German wire in 1979).

Safari ballooning, Arctic ballooning, Alpine ballooning, have become specialist sports. At the annual ballooning international Hot Air Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque, New Mexico, more than 200 brilliantly coloured aerostats can be seen rising simultaneously into the blue on summer mornings.

The crossing of the Atlantic in 1978 by Double Eagle II and the establishing of new high altitude hot air balloon records by the British balloonist Julian North in 1974 and 1980 (his frail blue carbon-fibre pressurized gondola is on display at the Science Museum) have pioneered a new heroic age of aerostatics.

For the appeal of ballooning corresponds, surely, to something permanent and timeless in the human spirit. It is the appeal and the magic of free flight, flying inside the wind and open to it, at its mercy but also at its grace.

The French philosopher Gaston Bachelard has written in his wonderful study, L'Air et les Songes, has, as a result, offered an antidote to the "aerial experience" of the "liberating airborn movement", of free ascent and descent, as a necessity of the imagination, as part of our very notion of what "freedom" is. In that sense, Piper is a kind of metaphor of this human aspiration. It lifts us into a renewed world, both perilous and beautiful. Its touch of absurdity is part of its charm and truth. Our future skies need balloons, far more than they need missiles. We must learn to dance in the air again.

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AGENDA FOR ATHENS

The sometimes superficially absurd manoeuvres of members of the House of Commons who are trying to make a point can often illuminate political reality in a way that nothing else does. So it was this week when nearly a third of the Conservative Party twisted itself into knots in an attempt to give the Prime Minister a little helpful guidance in advance of her journey tomorrow to the European Economic Community's summit at Athens.

that she could not get the assent of her party for an agreement at any price. What is more, she will be helped by the fact that the governments with which she is negotiating will have taken that point, too.

prosperity in the Community, we should in effect be paying less because we should get money back next year. Such repayment almost certainly cannot be without raising the element of "own resources" which is calculated as a notional (and harmonized) 1 per cent of the VAT tax base.

THE PLACE OF PAROLE

The Home Secretary has now given to Parliament a fuller statement of his policy of curtailing the privilege of release on licence for prisoners convicted of certain types of murder and the privilege of parole in the case of prisoners given a determinate sentence of more than five years for crimes of violence or drug trafficking.

there was a greater likelihood of their constituting a danger to members of the public if released. That is not Mr Brittan's reason for changing the rules. His reason has to do with deterrence and the exaction of condign punishment.

embarrassing for other members of this organization should a future elected government opt out at a future date.

Concern at airline safety record

From the General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union

Politics and examination results

From Mr Giles Radice, MP for Durham North (Labour)

Keeping telecom wires uncrossed

From Mr John Bray

Calke Abbey

From Mr James Lees-Milne

Oxford admissions

From Mr O. P. Taplin

Alliance unity

From Mr Winston Roddick

Disruption of concert

From Miss Deborah Bazalgette

Way of the Cross

From the Reverend Frank R. Claburn

Security check

From Commander G. Cobb, RN (read)

Fear of police powers

From the Secretary of the Police Superintendents' Association of England and Wales

Pakistan invitation

From Mr Ahmad Bashir

What Keynes meant

From Professor Z. A. Silberton

Letters to the Editor

Unrestricted privatisation could lead to a variety of non-optimum and possibly conflicting technical and operational standards within the United Kingdom and a deterioration in the quality of service.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDING UP PALACE... Her Royal Highness, attended by...

of higher and honorary degrees at the University of Lancaster.

Lord Ennals has arrived in Karachi and is staying at the guest of Mr Ahmed E. H. Jaffer at Jaffer House.

A memorial service for Charles K. Phillips will be held today at 3 at Great St Mary's, Cambridge.

Birthdays

TODAY: Vice-Admiral Sir Conolly Abel Smith, 84; Mr Leslie Ames, 78; Mr Walter Anderson, 73; Mr Trevor Bailey, 60; Mr Charles Craig, 63; Mr Mike Gibson, 41; Sir William Harpham, 77; Professor G. S. Kirk, 62; Sir Neil Martin, 67; Miss Tanya Moisewitch, 69; Air Marshall Sir Douglas Morris, 75; the Rev Professor C. F. D. Moule, 75; Mr Victor Pasmore, CH, 75; Professor Sir Thomas Smith, QC, 68.

Forthcoming marriages

Sir Alexander Muir-Mackenzie, Bt, and Miss C. Hayler... The engagement is announced between Alexander Alwynne Brinson, son of the late Sir Robert Muir-Mackenzie, Bt, and the late Lady Muir-Mackenzie...

Dr R. W. Griffiths and Dr F. S. Coles... The engagement is announced between Richard William, son of the late Mr R. B. Griffiths and Mrs Leola Mac Griffiths of Ottawa, Illinois...

Mr P. M. Harris and Miss E. R. Jamieson... The engagement is announced between Peter Mark, second son of Mr Stanley Harris, of Ham, Surrey, and Mrs Mary Jakeman of Crofton, Surrey...

Mr T. D. Owen and Miss V. M. Chamberlain... The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of the late Mr D. J. Owen, and Mrs O. Owen of London, W3, and Veronica, daughter of the late Major J. R. H. Chamberlain, and Mrs H. L. Chamberlain, of Great Yeldham, Essex.

Mr R. A. L. Boden and Miss H. L. Parfitt... The engagement is announced between Richard, second son of Mr and Mrs E. L. Boden, of Wistaria Cottage, Marston Magna, Somerset, and Louise, youngest daughter of Major and Mrs J. H. G. Parfitt, of Colville Hall, Cowfold, York, North Yorkshire.

Mr J. A. F. Cowdery and Miss I. G. L. Harrison... The engagement is announced between James, second son of Mr and Mrs Norman Cowdery, of Rock Lodge, Seaynes Hill, Sussex, and Iona, daughter of Mr and Mrs Iain Harrison, of Craighat, Killarn, Stirlingshire.

Mr R. N. S. Thomas and Miss G. L. Williams... The engagement is announced between Neil, youngest son of Dr and Mrs Thomas, of Dolgellau, Gwynedd, and Gwen, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Hefin Williams, of Bala, Gwynedd.

Mr J. J. Darby and Miss F. J. M. Duke... The marriage took place in Hongkong on Friday, December 2, 1953, between Mr Jeremy Darby and Miss Fyz Duke.

Mr R. C. M. Hocking and Miss M. L. Acheson-Gray... The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs K. F. Hocking, of Killigannon, Truro, Cornwall, and Mary, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Acheson-Gray, of Cobham, Surrey.

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Marriages

Mr J. S. B. Eynon and Miss T. Colley... The marriage took place on November 30 at Anchorage, Alaska, between Mr J. S. B. (Freddie) Eynon, younger son of Mr and Mrs Stuart Eynon, of Bantons Hood, Lamon Hill, Parkmill, Swansea, West Glamorgan, and Miss Twiss Colley, daughter of the late Raymond Colley and Mrs Elizabeth Colley, of Washington State, United States.

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Ancient and modern: Looks of anger, joy, pain, wonder and fear in five contemporary faces witnessing an ancient event. Eric Scott, aged 38, a self-taught artist from Sunderland, now living in Cornwall (seen with his painting), used his father, brother, girlfriend and two close friends to set the Crucifixion in a modern context. His 8ft by 6ft canvas goes on show from Monday until January 14 at the Nicholas Treadwell Gallery, Chiltern Street, London, with 24 other modern religious paintings, in response to a marked revival of interest

Science and religion

Paradoxes of physics and theology

What is light? What is matter? These are questions fundamental to a scientific understanding of the world. Or are they? Certainly they are questions long known to have no simple answers. Indeed, a recently completed experiment goes so far as to indicate that they might have no answers at all.

question "Who, or what, is God?" the Church Fathers came to the conclusion that they had to regard him as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Nevertheless, he was one God, not three. Moreover each of the Persons of this Trinity was not to be thought of as merely a part, or aspect, of God; each was fully God. Difficult though it was to see how the apparent contradiction was to be reconciled, they considered any simpler description of God would not do justice to the evidence.

Luncheons

HM Government... Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon given at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday, in honour of Mr R. F. Botha, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Information of South Africa.

Reception

Gallagher - Northern Ireland... MR Dennis Faulkner, Chairman of the Northern Ireland Board of Directors, gave a reception on Thursday evening at St John's, Smith Square, after a concert by the Ulster Orchestra. Among the guests were...

Science report

Teeth yield clues to ancient man

The microscopic study of teeth found on archaeological sites is yielding information about the diet and stresses of ancient communities. Dr Simon Hillson, an archaeological scientist leading a team at Lancaster University, said it is possible to tell, for example, how children were looked after and whether they lived healthy lives.

thickness of one hundred thousandth of a millimetre. Because of the tooth's condition, the slice requires to be supported by modern materials. The resultant slice is then microscopically examined. The other technique requires the making of a cast of the tooth, enabling scientists to examine the layers of its structure. The techniques are able to determine with extreme accuracy the timing of certain events during the tooth growth period.

OBITUARY

SIR ROWLAND BAKER

Design of naval craft... Sir Rowland Baker, OBE, who died on November 25 aged 75 was one of the outstanding Naval Constructors of recent times. He was born at Sheerness on June 3 1908 and brought up on a working Thames barge. After an apprenticeship at Sheerness Dockyard he won a Cadetship to the RN College, Greenwich in 1927, graduating as an Assistant Constructor.

DAME IDA MANN

Dame Ida Mann, OBE, who died in Perth, in Australia, on November 19 at the age of 90, was a distinguished pioneer in ophthalmic surgery. She was the only woman ever to be elected as Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Moorfields eye hospital in London, and the only Professor of Ophthalmology at Oxford University.

SEMYON IGNATIEV

Mr Semyon Ignatiev, who has died at the age of 79, was Stalin's last Minister of State Security from 1951 onwards. As such he was principally responsible for the investigation of the so-called "Doctors' Plot", in which a group of leading Kremlin doctors was accused of having murdered Zhdanov in 1948 and of seeking to undermine the health of other Soviet leaders. Most of them were Jewish and the fabricated case had strong anti-Semitic overtones.

LOTTE EISNER

Lotte Eisner, who died in Paris on November 26 aged 87, was one of the best-known European film critics. She was born on March 6, 1866. This was three days before the Lumiere Cinematographe made its first public appearance in London; so that her life was exactly contemporary with the cinema itself. Her father was head of the old-established family export firm in Berlin and a magistrate. At the University of Greifswald she studied archaeology; her dissertation was on Greek painted vases.

Corrections

Sir Antonio Dolin died on November 25, not November 26 as stated in the obituary, printed on December 1. In the obituary published yesterday, Sir Hedley Atkins should have been described as Hunnicran orator at the Royal College of Surgeons in 1917.

Cartier advertisement featuring a pocket watch and the text 'le mut de Cartier boutique HARVEY NICHOLS, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, LONDON SW3. TELEPHONE 01-235 5000.'

Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, with the word 'Fidelity' visible.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page: 'مكتبة من الأصول'

FAMILY MONEY

Tax avoidance schemes

BES funds doors closing fast

Only six of the 21 Business Expansion Scheme funds launched since June of this year are still open to investors.

And with the pressing requirement to invest the money before the end of the current tax year in order to qualify for tax relief, this is probably the investor's last chance to take advantage of one of the best tax avoidance schemes available.

Individuals subscribing between £2,000 and £40,000 to any of the funds will be investors in a surprise assortment of unquoted companies. The stake money is allowable against your highest marginal tax rates, including the investment income surcharge.

This means, at best, for a 75 per cent taxpayer tax relief can give an effective discount of 75 per cent. This generous incentive to promote smaller businesses is the Government's acknowledgement that venture capital is risk capital.

Of £20m invested to date in 114 companies by the 11 earlier Start-up Scheme approved funds, £650,000 has been lost in four companies which failed.

Unfortunately, besides the venture risk, there is another

risk inherent in approved funds - this concerns the timing of tax relief. Currently, tax relief is only given for the tax year in which the new shares are issued by the investor companies to the fund manager acting as nominee.

Consequently, investors with prospectively lower marginal tax rates next year should only invest in funds which will be fully invested by the end of the current tax year.

However, any fund may have difficulty in finding suitable companies, as have at least two of the 1981/82 funds which are still not fully invested. Approved funds will continue to give uncertain tax relief unless the Government accepts the merit of amending the legislation to allow tax relief to relate back to the year of subscription to the fund.

Funds may now invest in established unquoted companies as well as in start-up situations. Although start-ups are inherently more risky than investments in established companies, the more successful smaller companies could possibly achieve a tenfold or greater increase in share value after five

years of sustained growth.

Tax relief would effectively increase the rate of this return to twentyfold or more for the 50 per cent taxpayer and to fortyfold or more for the 75 per cent taxpayer.

Apart from tax relief, the most important concern of investors will be the ease of realization of the shares after five years.

This will be easier in the case of well established companies ready for the USM or even full market listing. Fund management groups active in over-the-counter (OTC) markets will also be able to trade shares in successful companies which may not be ready for the USM.

OTC markets should be significantly more highly developed (and controlled) in five years' time. Currently, they are generally run on a matched bargain basis with no guarantee of sale. However, Hill Wollgar and Ravendale are prepared to act as principals, i.e. to give a jobbing service.

Other methods of realization include purchase of the shares by the company's management (more feasible with small placings); sales to institutional

buyers; sale of the company; forming an investment holding company; and purchase of the shares by the company itself.

But otherwise, as Sabrelance's David Shaw (ex-County Bank) points out: "One of the most important points an individual should consider is what happens at the end of the five-year period if the shares are not marketable."

Sabrelance undertakes to manage investments on behalf of investors for up to 10 years to give additional time for company shares to become marketable.

If you wish to invest in a generous tax relief discount in new or expanding established companies and you need the selection, investment spread and management benefits that funds provide, then do not wait to the end of the tax year.

Now is the latest time to invest if tax relief for the current financial year is important to you. With some offshore roll-up fund money already looking for a new home, do not count on every fund remaining open to their closing dates.

John Harrison

Approved business expansion funds open to subscribers in November and December 1983

Fund	Minister Trust	Sabrelance	County Bank	Hill Wollgar	Ravendale	Britannia
Date launched	6.10.1983	17.10.1983	2.11.1983	9.11.1983	10.11.1983	15.11.1983
Closing date (Earliest on full subscription)	9.12.1983	9.12.1983	9.12.1983	16.12.1983	30.12.1983	5.12.1983
Fund: Maximum	£2m	£1.5m	£2.5m	£2m	£1.5m	£2.5m
Minimum	£250m	£0.4m	£1m	£250m	£250m	£2.5m
Minimum subscription (Add initial fee)	£2,000	£2,000	£5,000	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000
Fees to subscribing investors						
Initial fee	4% + Vat	6% + Vat	5% + Vat	7% + Vat	7% + Vat	5% + Vat
Annual fee	Nil	Up to 1% + Vat	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Charges to companies						
Placing fee	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Fees for other services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Share option	Up to 20% of fund holding	Up to 15% of ex-fund equity	No option (other than with bank loans)	Up to 10% or equity	Up to 15% of equity	None
Investment range						
Minimum	£100,000 preferred	£30,000	£50,000	£50,000	£50,000	£100,000
Maximum (or 20% of fund)	£800,000	£250,000	£450,000	£400,000	£300,000	£500,000
Investment policy		c. 20% s-u but 80% of fund may be in companies under 5 years	Mainly established companies	No pure s-u	Balance eg 25/75	New and emerging companies
Start-up or expansion	Max 20% s-u					
Projected date for full investment (no guarantee)	April 5, 1984	April 5, 1984	April 5, 1985	April 5, 1985	April 5, 1985	April 5, 1985
Nominated directors on boards	If necessary	Always	If necessary	Usually	Usually	
Aims for realization of investments after five years	USM, etc.	OTC, management buy-outs, USM, etc.	USM, etc.	OTC, USM, etc.	USM, etc.	

A NEW UNIT TRUST FROM M & G
Municipal and General Securities Company Limited (The Managers) invite subscriptions for units of the

M & G DIVIDEND FUND

to give an estimated gross yield of 5 1/2%

How well has it done?

Launch advertisement May 1964

Outstandingly.
Since the launch of the M & G Dividend Fund in May 1964 income distributions on an initial investment of £10,000 have increased from £396 after basic rate tax in the first full year to £1,900 in 1983.

By contrast, a building society investor has seen his income fluctuate, rising from £386 in 1965 to £1,050 in 1980 and dropping back to £675 in 1983. Anybody whose income depended on a substantial building society investment has seen his return fall over the last 3 years, whilst the Dividend Fund investor has continued to enjoy a steadily increasing income throughout the period.

As for capital value, it would not have fluctuated in a building society, with the original £10,000 remaining intact. But anyone who invested £10,000 in Dividend Fund income units in 1964 has turned his capital into £38,040 by the end of September, 1983, in addition to the income he has received.

Unit trusts are for long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice. This is because the price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

But if you need income which will grow over the years and can afford to take a long term view, M & G Dividend Fund could be the ideal investment for you. You can be confident that M & G will continue to make income growth the prime objective for this fund, and in the past this has been a successful policy for capital as well.

Year	BUILDING SOCIETY ⁽¹⁾ Income £	Capital £ ⁽²⁾	M & G DIVIDEND FUND ⁽³⁾ Income £	Capital £ ⁽⁴⁾
1964	233	10,000	-	9,500
1965	386	10,000	396	10,200
1966	400	10,000	407	9,200
1967	425	10,000	428	10,460
1968	442	10,000	427	12,840
1969	487	10,000	441	11,080
1970	500	10,000	463	10,760
1971	500	10,000	487	15,680
1972	500	10,000	523	18,820
1973	658	10,000	606	13,620
1974	780	10,000	731	7,700
1975	721	10,000	828	16,300
1976	692	10,000	906	14,740
1977	700	10,000	1,025	22,200
1978	629	10,000	1,201	23,340
1979	846	10,000	1,396	22,780
1980	1,050	10,000	1,660	24,280
1981	906	10,000	1,840	26,240
1982	823	10,000	1,860	30,040
1983	675 ⁽⁵⁾	10,000	1,900	38,040 ⁽⁶⁾
Total	12,353		17,525	

Notes: (1) The income from a building society deposit shown above is the average of the rates offered in each year and is then set at a basic rate taxpayer's rate. (2) Capital value at 31st December in each year. (3) Estimated. (4) Based on the price on 30th September 1983. (5) The income from M & G Dividend Fund is based on an investment of £10,000 at the offer price for income units of 50p on 6th May 1964. Income is shown net of basic rate tax. (6) Income is shown net of basic rate tax.

M & G now offer an extra allocation of units in Dividend Fund - a unit trust with an outstanding track record

SPECIAL OFFER CLOSES 9th DEC

All applications received by 9th December will be given an extra 1% allocation of units (minimum £1,000). This will be increased to 2% for applications of £10,000 or more.

To: M & G SECURITIES LIMITED, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ. TELEPHONE: 01-626 4588

Minimum investment £1,000.00. NOT SEND ANY MONEY. (A contract note will be sent to you stating exactly how much you owe and the settlement date. Your certificate will follow shortly.)

PLEASE INVEST £

IN INCOME ACCUMULATION UNITS. (Delete as applicable: Income units will be secured at the prevailing rate of interest on the application in the M & G Dividend Fund. Minimum £1,000.)

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

THE M & G GROUP

Top Performer

Excellent outlook for Fidelity Japan Trust

Confidence in Japanese market and the Yen

A top performing unit trust

Over the 12 months to 1st November 1983 Fidelity Japan Trust is the top performing of all unit trusts (source: 'Planned Savings' December), with the offer price rising 118%. This demonstrates our ability to pick stocks in Japan and to use our flexibility to switch between large and small companies.

Optimism for Japan and the Yen

We are confident that the outlook for both the Japanese economy and the Yen is good. With its strength in consumer products, Japan historically has benefitted from an economic upturn. Thus the gathering momentum of the world economy will, we believe, lead to outstanding investment opportunities in the Japan stock market. We also expect the Yen to strengthen giving an additional bonus to investors.

Fidelity's strength in Japan

Fidelity Japan Trust is advised by our Tokyo office, staffed by a unique team of 25 Japanese nationals. This strength in depth is a key factor, we believe, in our enviable investment record in Japan. The Trust gets on-the-spot management

and is switched actively between types and sizes of companies as stock market trends change.

Fidelity is one of the largest independent investment management groups in the world, with a research team of 100 top professionals worldwide, and offices in Boston, Hong Kong, London, New York and Tokyo.

Fidelity Japan Trust

This trust aims to produce maximum capital growth from a portfolio chosen from the total range of investments available in Japan. Since launch in October 1981 to 1st December 1983 the unit offer price has risen 116% compared with a rise of 53% in the Tokyo New Index (currency adjusted).

How to Invest

Simply complete the coupon below and post it to us with your cheque. Fidelity Investor Services welcomes your telephone enquiries for advice and further information on Tonbridge (0732) 361111 or Freephone 2425.

Remember the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

FIDELITY JAPAN TRUST

To: Fidelity International Management Limited, Dealing and Administration Office, River Walk, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1DY. Tel: Tonbridge (0732) 362222

I wish to invest £ _____

in Fidelity Japan Trust accumulation units at the offer price (including the effect of my enclosed cheque made payable to Fidelity International Management Limited).

(Minimum initial investment is £500)

I would like further information.

Fidelity INTERNATIONAL

FOR THOSE UP TO AGE 55

M & G CAPITAL BUILDER

Start a plan before 9th December and get 5% more invested for your first year than shown in the table

The M & G Capital Builder Plan is designed for investors who wish to build up capital out of regular savings. Because it includes life assurance cover M & G reclaim tax on your behalf and add it to your payments (provided that your total life assurance premiums do not exceed the greater of £1,500 p.a. or one sixth of your total income).

Your money is invested in the M & G Bond Fund of your choice from the list in the application form below. You can switch from one Fund to another at any time, subject to a small fee (currently £10).

Anyone aged 18 to 55 can start a plan. The minimum net payment is £12 a month and there is no maximum. Your plan matures after 20 years, but you can cash it in whenever you like after one year's premiums have been paid.

The future value of your plan will depend on your starting age and the performance of the Fund you choose. For example, if a man of 35 started a £20 net a month plan and the unit price grew at an average annual rate of 10%, he could expect to receive £14,440 after 20 years for a total net outlay of £4,800. The unit price reflects the value of the assets held in the Fund and will fluctuate accordingly.

Age at start	£12-£14	£15-£19	£20-£39	£40 upwards
Up to 35	110.5%	114.1%	117.6%	121.1%
36 to 40	109.4%	112.9%	116.4%	120.0%
45	107.0%	110.5%	114.1%	117.6%
50	102.3%	105.8%	109.4%	112.9%
55	95.2%	98.8%	102.3%	105.8%

NOTES: The percentages apply to both men and women, and assume acceptance on normal terms and tax relief at 15%. If the rate changes, the net amount you pay will change accordingly. Percentages for intermediate ages fall between the figures shown and are available on request.

The plan provides immediate life cover of 15 times your gross annual premium (i.e. the amount you pay plus tax relief). Your first two years' premiums buy Capital Units; subsequent premiums buy Accumulation Units. The offered prices of both units include a 5% initial charge. There is an annual charge of currently 3 1/2% for Accumulation units and 5% for Capital units. Although you can cash in your plan at any time after you have paid one year's premiums you are recommended not to do so for at least four years to avoid a forfeit of tax relief. Accumulation units are cashed for their bid value; there is a deduction from Capital units on early encashment which reduces to nil after 10 years, e.g. you would receive 68% of their value after two years, increasing by 4% for each subsequent year. Accumulation unit prices are reported daily in the Financial Times and Capital unit prices are available from M & G on request. You have no personal liability to tax on capital gains but higher-rate taxpayers are advised to continue payments for at least 10 years, for tax reasons. Tax payable by the Company on capital gains is reflected in the price of units. Actual rights as between policyholders and the Company will be governed solely by the terms of the policies and a specimen policy form is available on request.

M & G LIFE, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ. TELEPHONE 01-626 4588.

To get 5% extra invested in the first year of your plan, return this form by **9th DECEMBER 1983**

CAPITAL BUILDER

I WISH TO PAY £ _____ net of tax relief each month (minimum £12) on an assurance policy which benefits linked to the Fund of my choice (named opposite). I enclose my cheque for the first net monthly payment, payable to M & G Life Assurance Company Limited. I understand that this payment is only provisional and that the Company will not assume risk until formal acceptance has been issued.

FULL SURVIVORS BENEFIT (if applicable)

ADDRESS: _____

POST CODE: _____

CURRENT HOME ADDRESS (if different from above): _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Please circle Fund selected, otherwise your policy will be linked to Managed Bond.

AMERICAN AMERICAN RECOVERY AM. SMALLER CO'S AUSTRALASIAN COMMODITY DEPOSIT EQUITY EXTRA YIELD FAR EASTERN GILT GOLD INDEX-LINKED GILT INTERNATIONAL JAPAN MANAGED PROPERTY RECOVERY

To: M & G LIFE, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ. TEL: 01-626 4588.

DECLARATION: I cannot sign Part B below delete it and sign Part A only. PART A: I DECLARE THAT the premiums will be paid by myself or my spouse and the names of the persons who are resident in the U.K. I consent to M & G Life sending information concerning my physical or mental health from any doctor who has attended me or seeking information from any insurance office to which a proposal has been made for insurance on my life and I authorise the M & G Life information. My declaration made by me in connection with this proposal shall be the basis of the contract between me and M & G Life Assurance Company Limited. PART B: I DECLARE THAT to the best of my belief I am in good health and free from disease; I have not had any serious illness or major operations; I do not expect any hazardous sports or pursuits and do not propose to do so; I have never been adversely treated. (For most diseases all facts likely to influence assessment of the proposal. If you are in doubt as to the relevance of any particular information you should discuss it as failure to do so may affect the benefits payable.) Do you have an existing M & G policy? YES/NO

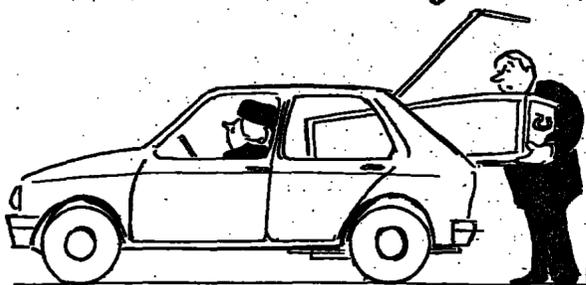
DATE: _____

M & G Life

FAMILY MONEY

Funeral expenses

Cost of dying rises, but DIY burials rejected



"IT'S A GOOD THING WE GOT THE HATCHBACK"

The cost of dying, like everything else, goes up, but this year funeral directors have managed to keep prices below the rate of inflation, according to a survey of funeral expenses.

The average funeral now costs £370, representing a rise of less than 5 per cent on last year in spite of increased cemetery charges, and doctors' and clergy fees. This information is based on a sample survey conducted in eight areas throughout England by the Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society. With the government grant toward death expenses still at only £30, this leaves a large sum of money still to be found.

But have you ever thought of a 'do-it-yourself' or family funeral? This idea is put forward (and I should add, rejected) by the vicar of Enfield, the Rev Bill Bowder, who completed the survey of funeral directors. For such a "DIY" funeral, you would have to buy a coffin which would cost about £30, with linings and handles an extra £5 or £10. The death certificate is usually handed to the nearest relative, but a second certificate is required for cremation.

The hospital authorities would be the next hurdle because some have a rule that they will release bodies only to an undertaker. "However, perseverance should win through red tape," says Mr Bowder.

Cemeteries and crematoria vary in their willingness to entertain the idea of a non-standard funeral. One crematorium in the north of England at first refused to accept a coffin that was not in a hearse, but relented when it was pointed out that

it used a van to remove a body from hospital.

So with the hire charges for a van, doctor's certificates and an average crematorium fee of £50, a non-standard funeral without benefit of clergy could add up to £150.

"Would it be worth it?" asked Mr Bowder.

"In the face of very real difficulties which would arise with reluctant officials and the possibility of delays and the overwhelming emotional bur-

den it would place on oneself after a death, the answer has got to be - no. It is under such conditions one would realize what sterling yet unsung work the funeral director does for his client."

With this sort of conclusion it is not surprising that the National Association of Funeral Directors broadly approves of the survey. But the association which represents 2,300 undertakers handling 80 per cent of

funerals disputes the average cost.

The association believes that it is more like £350 for an undertaker's fees with another £150 for the extras bringing the total cost of £500. It says the £370 figure which excludes so many extras is "misleading."

The average figure in itself can be misleading as regional variations are so great. Local authorities can charge over £300 to open up a grave for

someone who lives outside the area.

Camden, for instance, which has a policy of preferring local residents, charges £70 for people living in Camden and £210 for people who have moved away and want to return to be buried.

Mr Bowder's survey for the Odd Fellows Society, showed that basic funeral costs varied between £105 for a hospital contract in Lowestoft, Suffolk, to £581 for one in Worthing, Sussex. The cheapest funerals on offer from the undertakers in 14 areas, excluding the hospital contract, ranged from £150 in Leeds to £350 in Worthing.

A number of undertakers, concerned about the huge variations across the country are pressing for a standardization of the fees charged by local authorities for cemetery and graveyard services.

But a funeral director in Market Harborough, Leicestershire, says that there can never be a standard price for a funeral. His company operates from a three-story Georgian building set in ornamental gardens and cannot compete in prices with the high street shop.

"Our nearest crematorium is a round trip of 25 miles," he said. "Our clients, whatever their financial situation, are more concerned with value for money than with a cheap funeral."

An Otley, Yorkshire, undertaker, whose funeral costs average £400 to £600, said: "We care too much about our calling to do a 'cheap' funeral."

And a Norwich, Norfolk, undertaker said that people should be educated about the costs of funerals and encouraged to take out insurance to cover them. "People think

nothing of spending £1,000 on holidays abroad. They want a high standard of life but they do not want to pay for a high standard of death."

Undertakers' fees are modest, he added, compared with vicars charging £16.50 an hour plus spending 20 minutes on a death certificate for which they are paid £32 plus travel.

The Odd Fellows who commissioned the survey offer whole life insurance policies which pay out when you die.



They may not be the best value on the market but offer a fair return. A man of 40 would have to pay £1.25 a year for 20 years for every £100 insured, a man of 49, £4.25 and a man of 59, £6.40 a year for 10 years. And a man of 74 for good health could get cover for his death for £13.35 a year for every £100 covered.

Vivien Goldsmith

Planning condition outwith power of applicant not invalid

Grampian Regional Council and Another v City of Aberdeen District Council

Before Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Scarman, Lord Roskill and Lord Bridge of Harwich (1983 SLT 526) [Speeches delivered November 24]

A condition imposed on a grant of planning permission that the development permitted was not to proceed unless and until a road closure had been brought about was valid notwithstanding that it was not wholly within the power of the applicant for permission to bring about the closure.

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by the City of Aberdeen District Council from the Second Division of the Inner House of the Court of Session (Lord Emslie, Lord President, Lord Cameron and Lord Grieve) on January 18, 1983, (1983 SLT 526) who had allowed an appeal by the first respondents, the Grampian Regional Council, from the second respondent, the Secretary of State for Scotland.

The provisions of sections 26 (1), 38, 39 and 198 (1) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act, referred to by Lord Keith are reproduced in identical terms in sections 29 (1), 41, 42 and 209 (1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971.

Mr J. T. Cameron, QC and Mr R. S. Keen (both of the Scottish Bar) for Aberdeen, the appellants, QC and Mr A. F. Rodger (both of the Scottish Bar) for Grampian and the secretary of state.

LORD KEITH said that Grampian had applied to Aberdeen and to Kincardine and Deeside District Council, the local planning authorities, for planning permission for the change of use of land lying across the authorities' boundaries from agricultural to industrial and approval of a site layout. The authorities were unable to issue determinations within the statutory time limit, and Grampian had appealed against the deemed refusals of permission to the secretary of state.

The reporter to whom determination of the appeals had been delegated had refused them on the sole ground of traffic safety. He had considered that the hazard would be removed if Wellington Road to the south of the site were to be closed, and had then considered whether it would be competent to grant planning permission subject to a condition requiring the closure of Wellington Road.

He had concluded that, since it did not lie wholly within Grampian's power to secure the closure of the road, because any closure order that they might make (under section 12 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1970) would require confirmation by the secretary of state, which, in the event of objections, would not necessarily be granted, the imposition of such a condition would not be competent.

The issue in the appeal turned on the nature of conditions that might lawfully be attached to a grant of planning permission under section 26(1) of the 1972 Act. The power to impose conditions was expressed in the widest possible terms: "the local planning authority... may grant planning permission... subject to such conditions as they think fit."

The power was not, however, unlimited. The nature of the limitations was well settled by authority and had been expressly stated by Viscount Dilhorne in *Newbury District Council v Secretary of State for the Environment* (1981) AC 578, 599-600:

"It follows that the conditions imposed must be for a planning purpose and not for any ulterior one, and that they must fairly and reasonably relate to the development permitted. Also they must not be so unreasonable that no reasonable planning authority could have imposed them."

Grampian's argument, which had prevailed before the First Division, accepted that a condition requiring them to secure the closure of Wellington Road would be invalid in so far as it required them to do so, but that it would not lie within their power to bring about that result at their own hand and, accordingly, the condition would be enforceable. Authority for that was to be found in *British Airports Authority v Secretary of State for Scotland* (1979) SC 200.

But it was maintained that the reporter had misdirected himself by failing to consider whether, given

that the expected traffic hazards meant that otherwise desirable development could not be allowed to go ahead unless Wellington Road were closed, there was any form of enforceable condition not infringing the limitations laid down by authority that was capable of bringing about the desired result. Such a condition, it was argued, was a condition that development on the site should not proceed unless and until Wellington Road had been closed.

Before the House, Aberdeen had attacked the First Division's acceptance of that argument on the ground that the imposition on the grant of planning permission of any negative condition related to the occurrence of an uncertain event was unreasonable and therefore invalid.

It was maintained that there was no practical distinction between a condition requiring a result that it was not within the power of the applicant alone to bring about and a condition prescribing that no development should be permitted until that result had been achieved, because in either case the practical effect was to require the applicant to bring about something that was not within his power. The distinction was, in any event, undesirable there should be prolonged uncertainty as to whether the development would be able to go forward or not.

There was no substance in those contentions. In the first place, there was a crucial difference between the positive and the negative type of condition in this context, namely that the former was not, in the second place, the reasonableness of any condition had to be considered in the light of the circumstances of the case. The proposition for development put forward by Grampian had been found by the reporter to be generally desirable in the public interest. The traffic problem was capable of being solved by the road closure, which had at least reasonable prospects of being achieved under statutory powers.

In the circumstances, it would have been not only not unreasonable but highly appropriate to grant planning permission subject to the condition that the development was not to proceed unless and until the closure had been brought about. In any event, it was impossible to view a condition of that nature as unreasonable and not within the scope of section 26(1) of the Act if regard was had to section 198, Subsection (1) provided:

"The secretary of state may by order authorize the stopping up or diversion of any highway if he is satisfied that it is necessary to do so in order to enable development to be carried out so in accordance with planning permission granted under Part III of this Act, or to be carried out by a government department."

A situation where planning permission had been granted subject to a condition that the development was not to proceed until a particular highway had been closed was plainly one situation within the contemplation of that subsection, though no doubt there were others.

The stopping up of the highway would obviously be necessary in order to enable the development to be carried out. So it was reasonable to infer that precisely the type of condition that was in issue in this appeal had been envisaged by the legislature in enacting section 26(1).

As it happened, Grampian had themselves power, under section 12 of the 1970 Act, to promote an order for the closure of the road. But that was an accident, though it might perhaps make the case an *fortiori* one. Section 19 of the 1970 Act, general and was apt to favour strongly the reasonableness of negative conditions relating to the closure of highways.

As to the argument on uncertainty, it was sufficient to notice that the provisions of sections 38 and 39 of the Act, about the limit of duration of planning permissions, indicated the recognition that development which was the subject of planning permission might not be carried out within any particular time-scale or at all. There was nothing to compel any successful applicant for planning permission to carry out the development, so uncertainty might be said to be a natural feature of the planning process.

Lord Fraser, Lord Scarman, Lord Roskill and Lord Grieve agreed. Solicitors: Sherwood & Co for A C Bennett & Fairweather, WS, Edinburgh; Martin & Co, parliamentary agents for Shepherd & Wedderburn, WS, Edinburgh.

Sequestrators' questions must be answered

Messenger Newspaper Group Ltd v National Graphical Association

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Griffiths and Lord Justice Stephen Brown (1983 SLT 526) [Judgment delivered November 30]

Where sequestration of a contemnor's assets had been ordered, anyone who knowingly took any action which prevented the sequestrators from carrying out their duty was obstructing a court order and therefore technically in contempt. The Court of Appeal so stated when dealing with ancillary matters following the withdrawal of an appeal by the National Graphical Association (NGA) against the decision of Mr Justice Eastham who had fined the union for contempt of court and had ordered that a writ of sequestration be issued against the union.

Mr Terence Rigby for the NGA; Mr Charles Hayward & Co were acting in the way which they thought was correct. His Lordship was not criticizing them as professional accountants any more than the court was criticizing the bank in *Eckman's case*.

The accountants' action was based on a mistaken view of the law. They were entitled to think that their case could be considered to be different from that of *Eckman*. Their Lordships were clearly of the opinion that their case was not different. For that reason, the accountants were technically in contempt of court.

The court would order that the accountants disclose the information asked for. The content of the union's officials was irrelevant. Lord Justice Griffiths and Lord Justice Brown agreed. Solicitors: Kenneth Gassman & Matthews; Church Adams Tatham & Co for Cobbeitts, Manchester; Clifford-Turner, Durrant Preece.

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Full name(s) Mr/Mrs/Miss _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Telephone no. _____
Signature(s) _____ Date _____

SAVE & PROSPER

هكذا من الأصل

BOXING: BRITISH LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

Board's policy means that viewers must miss a classic

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

It is a pity that the British Board of Control's policy of limiting promoters to four days a year when they can arrange for bouts to be televised on the day they take place will prevent the British lightweight championship from being shown on ITV screens this afternoon.



Williams: lively challenger

The viewers will be missing the best of British courage and skill when George Feeney, of Harlepool, defends his title against Tom Willis, of Liverpool, at the Regent Crest Hotel, Marylebone, London.

Willis has won all his 13 bouts, the last six inside the distance. A double ABA light welterweight champion, he found his way past the hard men of the Moscow Olympics to win a bronze medal, and should be a real contender.

15 to 12 rounds, but Willis could prove a little too lively and his greater speed and power could make him the first home boxer to stop Feeney.

There had been some doubts about the contest going on at all. The board's policy insisted that unless they received a written assurance from Warren that he would not show the bout the same day on television they would withdraw the officials.

HOCKEY

Britain in search of lost horizon

By Sydney Friskin

The Great Britain men's hockey team, with Roger Self, manager, and David Whitaker, coach, leave for Hongkong today to try to regain their lost horizon - a place in the Olympic Games at Los Angeles next year.

"We have prepared the British team as well as we have been able to, and were permitted to do by the respective constituent associations."

WEEKEND FOOTBALL, RUGBY AND OTHER FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

First division Arsenal v West Bromwich Aston Villa v West Ham Liverpool v Birmingham Luton v Coventry Manchester U v Everton

Second division Brighton v Cardiff Cambridge U v Fulham Charlton v Leeds

Third division Bolton v Bradford Bournemouth v Plymouth Bristol R v Sheffield U Exeter v Hull Newport v Wigan (3.15) Orient v Preston

Fourth division Blackpool v Peterborough Chester v Burnley Colchester v Tranmere Colchester v Hartlepool

Scottish premier division Aberdeen v Motherwell Dundee v St Mirren Hibernian v Dundee U Rangers v Hearts St Johnstone v Celtic

Scottish first division Alloa v Ayr Clydebank v Inverness Celtic v Hamilton Falkirk v Hamilton Kilmarnock v Clyde Morton v Airdrie Partick v Brechin Raith v Dumfries

Scottish second division Cowdenbeath v East Fife E Skirling v Queen of South Forfar v Brechin Queen's Park v Arbroath Stirling Albion v Dundee United Stirling Albion v Dundee United

RUGBY UNION INTERNATIONAL Scotland v Ireland at Melrose, 2.15

JOHN PLAYER CUP Second round High Wycombe v Leyton (2.15) Norwich v Hales (2.15) Northampton v Newark Nuneaton v Pk66 Richmond v US Portsmouth (2.15) Southend v KCS Old Boys (2.15) Stroud v Gloucestershire (2.30) Vipers v Scarborough (2.30) West Hartlepool v Morley (2.30) Worthing v Old Radcliffe (2.30)

CLUB MATCHES Abernethy v Brighthelm East London Scotland Ecodon v Neath Borougham v Royal High (2.15) Camborne v Torquay (2.45) Cardiff v Swansea Chalfont v Aston of Luns New Vale v Haverhill (2.30) Edinburgh Academicals v Herio's FP (2.15) Gortovon v Sheffield (2.15) Harrogate v Blackheath (2.15) Harrogate v Blackheath (2.15) Harrogate v Blackheath (2.15) Harrogate v Blackheath (2.15)

ATHLETICS: BUILDING HIGH, GETTING HIGH

Americans 'loaded' chief says

By Pat Butcher

The long road to a single governing body for athletics in Britain should pass an important milestone today. The working party report on amalgamation of the 19 bodies which currently administer athletics in Britain is to be debated by the AA general committee in London.

There would still be national organizations for the four home countries, but the men and women would be administered by one body. The proposal is for a council of 19 people with one paid officer, to administer coaching, finance, home affairs, international affairs and promotions.

The results he achieved were good enough for the British team to earn selection, but both the players and management alike were frustrated when the Board withdrew the team from Moscow because of Afghanistan.

Unit Trust Prices - change on the week

Table with columns for Unit Name, Price, Change, and Yield. Includes units like Royal Life Unit Trust, Prudential Unit Trust, etc.

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Large table of Unit Trust Prices - change on the week, organized by fund type and name. Includes columns for Unit Name, Price, Change, and Yield.

FOOTBALL: CHAIRMAN TRIES TO SOLVE HIGHBURY CRISIS

Albion to provide good test of Arsenal attitude

By Peter Ball

It has become increasingly evident that the cult of the manager is being superseded by the cult of the chairman. Yesterday it went a step further with Arsenal's chairman Peter Hill-Wood giving his players their pre-match pep talk.



Sunderland (left) and Whyte bearing the brunt of responsibility for Arsenal's Milk Cup defeat.

West Bromwich themselves make four changes after their midweek Milk Cup defeat, but as a result of injuries, Regis, Robertson, Jol and Smith are all dropping out. Bennett, Monaghan, MacKenzie and Webb come in. Even without Jol and his colleagues an encouraging team for the faint-hearted to play against, so Arsenal's much criticized players have a good opportunity to answer for their performance in the cup.

Mr Hill-Wood obviously took to his task as to the manner born. "I tried to impress on everyone that we must be fiercely competitive to survive at this level," he said afterwards. His confidence in his ability to match the Cloughs and Allison showed through as he added: "I think the players will respond with 110 per cent tomorrow and hopefully carry three points."

Scottish squad built on European club success

By Hugh Taylor

A party of players endowed with the talent to bring signs of envy from practically every other football country in the world, Scotland announced yesterday by the manager, Jack Stein, for the visit of Scotland to Northern Ireland on December 13. Of the 20 members of the squad, fewer than 17 play with clubs who retain an interest in the European club tournaments, only Thomson, Stewart and Nicholas being estranged from the elite corps.

Another Swansea blow as Livermore goes

By Peter Walker

A month after taking over from John Toshack, who resigned as manager of Swansea City, Doug Livermore, the club's former coach, has decided to call it a day. "I'm just not up to the job," Livermore said. His side have not won a point since he took over at the end of October.

Blissett exchange denied

Milan (AP) - A spokesman of AC Milan yesterday described as "ridiculous and groundless" reports that they might exchange Luther Blissett for Norman Whiteside, of Manchester United.

Davis leads as White struggles to survive

By Sydney Friskin

Steve Davis, a model of consistency, has more than his opponent, Jimmy White, by five frames to three at the halfway stage of their semi-final match in the United Kingdom championship sponsored by Corni.

Rosslyn Park aiming to deprive powerful Wasps of record

By David Hands Rugby Correspondent

The two B internationals to be played at Melrose and Bourg-en-Bresse today leave the English club programme largely unaffected, though London Scottish, who take a weakened side to Bath, may not agree. This is a matter for some rejoicing, for all too often the country's leading clubs find themselves meeting each other with diluted sides.



Stringer: personal contest

There were times when Davis, the world champion, looked so superior that he seemed likely to finish a more substantial lead. Davis's argument was sound and his cue action superb, but although White was in some desperate situations, he managed to regain some ground by winning an absorbing eighth frame.

Leicester field their five England backs and their two Under-23 wings at Melrose. Road against Gloucester, who have opted for Orwin and Fidler at lock to the exclusion of Boyle. It is far from clear that Leicester have three players who can play their ability but behind the scrum should carry them through. The same is true of Bath, against Scottish, with their hooker, and Spurrell, their captain.

Echoes of the past in Romanian challenge

From Chris Thau Toulouse

Tomorrow's game between France and Romania holds a special significance as it takes place a fortnight after the Welsh debacle in Bucharest and France's win against Australia in the second international.

All-Black shadow falls on cup

By David Hands

The New Zealanders may have departed but they have left behind a shadow. Deans, their full back, has taken up temporary residence with Grenoble while, nearer home, today's second round of the John Player Cup brings the two clubs with a nap band, Morley and West Hartlepool.

Results

Table with columns for league names (UEFA Under-21, England, Greece, Hungary, Denmark) and match results.

£15,000 for supporter

Lyons, France (AFP) - St Etienne Football Club have been ordered by an appeal court to pay 177,106 francs (£15,000) in compensation to a supporter injured while watching a game at the club's stadium in 1977.

Wolves pay for Crainie

Wolverhampton Wanderers yesterday completed the signing of Danny Crainie, a midfield player, after agreeing to pay Celtic £25,000. Wolves has originally tried to claim that Crainie was available on a free transfer.

Maracaña threatened

Rio de Janeiro, (AP) - Maracaña stadium, the world's largest football park and an internationally known sports landmark, may close because of financial problems, officials say. The 180,000-seat stadium has been losing money for years, and a slump in attendance and the need for urgent repairs could force it to shut down.

Wenzel back to form in World Cup slalom

Kranjcar Gora, Yugoslavia (Reuters) - Andreas Wenzel of Liechtenstein, yesterday won a special slalom, the opening men's race of the Alpine World Cup season.

Australian pair may lose medals

Brisbane (Reuters) - The Australian Swimming Union (ASU) will meet in Melbourne on December 28 to decide whether Tracy Wickham and Mark Morgan breached their amateur status by accepting a \$600 grant after boycotting the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE: Los Angeles Raiders 42, San Diego Chargers 34. BASKETBALL: Los Angeles Lakers 117, Boston Celtics 107. HOCKEY: New York Islanders 4, Philadelphia Flyers 3.

Kenyon sees a chink in Jahangir's armour

Phil Kenyon achieved a personal victory of a kind in defeat against Jahangir Khan in the quarter final round of the world open championships, sponsored by Canadian Club, yesterday.

Scotland confident

The European curling championships start in Vasarås, Sweden, tomorrow with Scotland, the holders, favourites to retain the trophy in the men's event. Scotland will be represented by the Perth rink of Mike Jay (skip), David Hay, David Smith and Russell Kenner.

Ferrasse optimistic

Paris (AFP) - Albert Ferrasse, president of the French Rugby Union, said he is still optimistic about the chances of leading a team to win the World Cup in 1986, after meeting president Mitterrand, here yesterday. "It is still a long way off, but I believe it can be done," Ferrasse said.

Wenzel back to form in World Cup slalom

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Table Tennis

World Table Tennis Championships: Men's team, quarter-final round: China 3-0, USSR 0. Women's team, quarter-final round: China 3-0, USSR 0.

FISA warning over rival series

Paris (AP) - The international motor racing federation (FISA) called yesterday on its 60 member countries to take strong steps to prevent the United States cart racing series becoming an international championship.

Motor Racing

Paris (AP) - The international motor racing federation (FISA) called yesterday on its 60 member countries to take strong steps to prevent the United States cart racing series becoming an international championship.

Correction

The Croxley Script Champion of Champions bowls tournament will be held on September 1 and 2 next year, not September 3 and 4 as stated yesterday.

French seek first win over British Under 24s

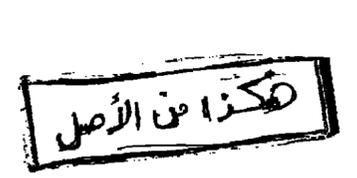
Great Britain's Under-24 team will be defending a remarkable record tomorrow when they meet France Under-24. This will be the thirteenth match at this level between the countries since under-24 games were reintroduced in 1976, and Britain have won all 12.

Coetzee in title defence

Johannesburg, (AFP) - Gerrie Coetzee, of South Africa, World Boxing Association heavyweight champion, expects to defend his title Wednesday in March or in April, according to the South African Radio.

IN BRIEF

Coetzee in title defence. Johannesburg, (AFP) - Gerrie Coetzee, of South Africa, World Boxing Association heavyweight champion, expects to defend his title Wednesday in March or in April, according to the South African Radio.



BIRTHS... Announcements... THE TIMES... 01-527 3333

BIRTHS... On December 1st... On December 2nd... On December 3rd

BIRTHS... On December 4th... On December 5th... On December 6th

BIRTHS... On December 7th... On December 8th... On December 9th

BIRTHS... On December 10th... On December 11th... On December 12th

BIRTHS... On December 13th... On December 14th... On December 15th

BIRTHS... On December 16th... On December 17th... On December 18th

BIRTHS... On December 19th... On December 20th... On December 21st

BIRTHS... On December 22nd... On December 23rd... On December 24th

DEATHS... On December 2, 1983... On December 3, 1983

DEATHS... On December 4, 1983... On December 5, 1983

DEATHS... On December 6, 1983... On December 7, 1983

DEATHS... On December 8, 1983... On December 9, 1983

DEATHS... On December 10, 1983... On December 11, 1983

DEATHS... On December 12, 1983... On December 13, 1983

DEATHS... On December 14, 1983... On December 15, 1983

DEATHS... On December 16, 1983... On December 17, 1983

DEATHS... On December 18, 1983... On December 19, 1983

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... CHRISTMAS ABROAD... VENTURA HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... AUSTRALASIA AND WORLDWIDE... ITALY

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... PILGRIM-AIR LTD... LOW COST FLIGHTS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... DAME ANNA NEAGLE... DISK SOCIETY PLEASE LISTEN

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... JOIN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST CANCER... FLIGHT BAGGAGE

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... AIRLINK... GERMANY FARETS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... ITALY FR 299... NEW YORK FR 235

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... ITALY FR 299... NEW YORK FR 235

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... ITALY FR 299... NEW YORK FR 235

PERSONAL COLUMNS... HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... BLADON LINES

PERSONAL COLUMNS... HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... BLADON LINES

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PERSONAL COLUMNS... HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... BLADON LINES

PERSONAL COLUMNS... ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES... CHIPPENDALE STYLE

PERSONAL COLUMNS... ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES... CHIPPENDALE STYLE

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PERSONAL COLUMNS... ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES... CHIPPENDALE STYLE

PERSONAL COLUMNS... ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES... CHIPPENDALE STYLE

PERSONAL COLUMNS... DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS... BELGRAVIA BUREAU

PERSONAL COLUMNS... DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS... BELGRAVIA BUREAU

PERSONAL COLUMNS... DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS... BELGRAVIA BUREAU

PERSONAL COLUMNS... DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS... BELGRAVIA BUREAU

PERSONAL COLUMNS... DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS... BELGRAVIA BUREAU

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Weekend radio... Saturday's World Service... Sunday's World Service... Includes program listings and contact information.

Advertisement for 'SUKA' (سوكا) featuring a stylized logo and text.

Britain hopeful of Athens summit

By Patricia Clough

The Government sees the chance of a breakthrough at the Athens EEC summit, thanks to France's new proposals to control the growth in community spending. Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said yesterday. While Eurocrats in Brussels were expressing doubts that the summit would resolve much, if anything, of the Community's huge budget and agriculture crisis, Mr Rifkind told *The Times*: "There is no reason for pessimism."

There had been "substantial convergence" in the 10 members' views since the last summit in Stuttgart in June, he said in an interview. The new proposals, in which France envisaged for the first time restrictions on farm spending, was a "potential major breakthrough".

"Now France, West Germany, Britain and the Netherlands are speaking with a very similar voice," he said. This meant that there was a broad base on which to work for effective reforms.

Controls on agricultural spending, one of Mrs Thatcher's essential conditions for any increase in the Community's own income, would have consequences for farmers, he said. But the government would oppose any measures that discriminated against British farmers, who are more efficient than most of their continental colleagues.

In particular, it would combat any attempt to penalize intensive milk production.

The European Parliament's threat to freeze Britain's 1983 budget rebate or reject the whole EEC budget if the summit did not agree on budgetary reform would have no effect on the Athens meetings, he said.

The Government "shares the concern" of the seven Tory backbenchers who voted with Labour to oppose any increase in the EEC's own financial resources.

No cash, no deal, page 5
Leading article, page 7

Falklands calendar tours around the islands

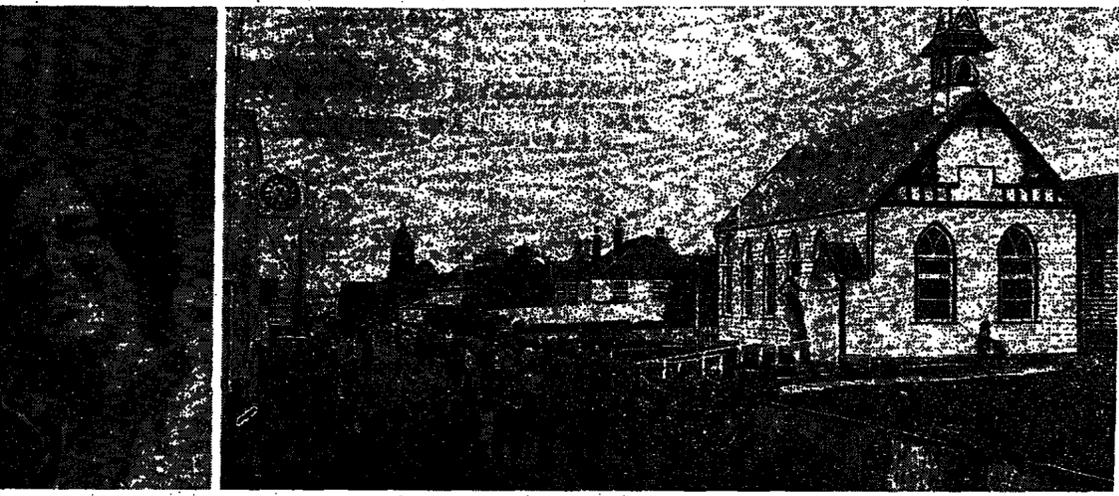
One of the New Year's more unusual calendars has been produced by Mr Stephen Whitley the Falklands Island's veterinary officer, whose photographs of views, landmarks and wildlife were taken on his continual travels around the islands. (Sandra Hempel writes).

The British public, however, will not get the chance to buy it for, although it is being printed in London, all 5,000 copies are going to the Falklands.

January (right) shows a group of Rockhopper penguins, the smallest of the five species which breed in the Falklands. A protected bird, it is very noisy and quarrelsome.

February (below right) has a picture of St Mary's Church, Ross Road, Port Stanley, built in 1899. Ross Road is named after the British explorer and navigator Captain Ross, who visited the islands with the British Antarctic expedition in 1842. Captain Ross favoured the move of the capital from its original site at Port Louis to the better harbour at Port William with its inner harbour, Port Stanley.

Shows below is Mr Whitley with his wife, Susan, a schoolteacher, who was killed by an artillery shell in the last days of the fighting around Port Stanley.



Tighter checks on honours candidates

Continued from page 1

He will use data to be published on Tuesday by the Trades Union-led Labour Research Department which juxtaposes industrialists honoured for non-political services by Mrs Thatcher since 1979 with the financial contributions their companies have made to the Conservative Party.

Shortly after becoming Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher told the Commons she was restoring the practice of awarding honours for political services. She undertook to forward to the scrutiny committee any names she added personally to the honours list at CRE rank or above.

It is impossible to tell, however, from reading a routine honours list which names were recommended by the Prime Minister personally unless it specifies that the award was for political services and the person honoured was a supporter of the Conservative Party.

The bulk of New Year and Birthday honours lists are compiled on the basis of recommendations processed by the Whitehall machine, rather than arising from a political initiative, and do not always pass through the scrutiny committee's hands. But resignations honours nominated by outgoing Prime Ministers are examined by the Privy Counsellors.

The committee's powers, stated most recently in a 1979 Order in Council, enable Lord Shackleton, Lord Franks and Lord Carr to report to the Prime Minister if the past history or general character of a person rendered him unsuitable to be recommended.

"In the event of the committee reporting against any name and the Prime Minister determining still to recommend such a name, a copy of the report of the committee will be submitted to Her Majesty with the recommendation."

In pursuing their inquiries, the Privy Counsellors can obtain access to information contained in police files and Security Service material, in addition to routine information held on individuals by Whitehall departments.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

New exhibitions
The MacLaurin Collection - the first exhibition of the MacLaurin collection of twentieth century art. The MacLaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr, Mon to Sat 11 to 5, closed Sun (until Jan 28).
Face to face portrait exhibition at the Cooper Gallery Church Street, Burslem, South Yorks. Tues 1 to 5, 30, Wed to Sun to 5.30 closed Mon (until Feb 5).
A Weaver's Life: Ethel Mairet.

1872-1952: Galleries 17-19, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham. Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until Jan 23).
Out of the Nomad's Tent: an exhibition of Turkish hand-woven rugs and textiles. Colston House Gallery, Market Place, Fairford, Gloucestershire. Mon to Sat 9.30 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 6 (until Dec 11).
1983 Christmas exhibition of paintings, prints, ceramics, toys, jewelry and tapestries. Festival Gallery, 1 Pierpoint Place, Bath. Tues to Sat 11 to 5 (until Dec 23).

The Art of Craft, an exhibition of craftwork at Newport Museum and Art Gallery, John Frost Square, Newport, Gwent. Mon to Thurs 10 to 5.30; Fri 10 to 4.30, Sat 9.30 to 4, closed Sun (until Feb 4).
Fishing Smacks: a Kent County Museum Service travelling exhibition; Tunbridge Wells Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Tunbridge Wells. Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 9.30 to 5, closed Sun (until Dec 31).
Oriel Christmas exhibition: works by Welsh artists; Welsh Arts Council Gallery, 53 Charles Street, Cardiff. Mon to Sat 9 to 5.30, closed Sun (until Jan 7).
Silver Studio Collection: Textile design 1850-1950. The Hamstead Museum, Burgh House, New End Square, NW3. Wed to Sun 12 to 5, closed Mon and Tues (until Dec 18).
Portrait Painters: "Scottish Connections". That's Shell, That's It! - exhibition of advertising material; both at Aberdeen Art Galleries, School Hill, Aberdeen. Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5 (both end Jan 7).
Crafts For Christmas: Leicestershire Guild of Craftsmen (ends Dec 28) and Victorian Paintings Workshop (ends Jan 9), both at Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, 96 New Walk, Leicester. Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5.30, closed Friday.

In the garden

One is often told on TV and radio in articles to put comms, tubers, fruits and vegetables in a frost-free shed. No shed is frost free: in prolonged periods of frost unless it is heated. If a frost lasts for three days and nights it will penetrate even a brick-built garage. So bring indoors dahlias and begonia tubers and gladioli coroms. Do not put them in the loft because of bitter nights frost can penetrate an unheated loft.
Watch now for signs of mice in frames, greenhouses or in stores. Set traps; milk chocolate or a bread seed will often prove a better bait than cheese. Stigs can be a nuisance eating the buds of *Unguisularis (L. stylosa)* and other plants. So put down generous quantities of slug bait or water on liquid slug killer. Put a cloche or two over parsley plants now. RH

Roads

London and South-east: A1018 (Chesham): Sewer works along (Rothbrook Street between Russell's Ride and Hillside Avenue; south-bound carriageway reduced. A100 (Leyton): Resurfacing work between Lea Bridge Road and Vernalim Avenue; single line traffic with traffic signals between 9.30 and 4 pm in each direction along Markhouse Road. A265: Sewer work along Heathfield to Burwash Road; two-way traffic on one carriageway, temporary signals.
Midlands and East Angles: A14: Roadworks on Huntingdon bypass; lane closures. A52: Contraflow system at Sandhurst on Derby to Nottingham Road. A38: Roadworks, with traffic signals at Church Street, Shropshire.
Wales and West: A476: Bypass construction at Merthyr Tydfil to Pontypridd; only one lane in use with temporary signals. A38: Eastbound carriageway, closed on Ivybridge to Plymouth Road east of Lec Mill. A55: Temporary roundabout on Conway to Colwyn Road at Colwyn Bay, junction with A546.
Scotland: A66: Sewer work at Invergowrie; single lane traffic and traffic lights. A9: Footbridge construction at Aines; single lane traffic, lights. A78: Carriageway closure and contraflow in operation. The Irvine bypass at river Irvine, south of junction with A71. Information supplied by AA

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will be maintained over S and E parts of England while troughs of low pressure cross N and W parts of Britain.

Gam to midnight

London, SE: central S England, East Angles, Midlands (E): Dry, sunny periods, frost early and late; wind S or SW, light or moderate; max temp 5 to 7°C (41 to 45°F).
E central N England, Midlands (W): Dry, hazy sunbursts; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 5 to 7°C (41 to 45°F).
Central Ireland: Dry, hazy sunbursts, wind S or SE, light or moderate; max temp 5 to 7°C (41 to 45°F).
SW England, Wales: Occasional light rain or drizzle, chiefly over coasts and hills, dying out later; sunny intervals developing; wind S or SW, light or moderate; max temp 8 to 10°C (46 to 50°F).
NE England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Central Highlands: Northern Ireland: Rather cloudy with occasional light rain or drizzle; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 9 to 11°C (48 to 52°F).
SE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dumfries, Aberdeen: Perhaps a little light rain or drizzle at times, also bright or sunny intervals; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 9 to 11°C (48 to 52°F).
Irish Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle, some bright intervals; wind SW, fresh or moderate or strong; max temp 10 to 12°C (50 to 54°F).

TODAY

Sun rises: 7:46am
Sun sets: 3:54pm
Moon rises: 6:21am
Moon sets: 3:24pm
New Moon: Tomorrow

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 7:47am
Sun sets: 3:54pm
Moon rises: 6:21am
Moon sets: 3:24pm
New Moon: 12:25pm

Around Britain

City	Sun	Moon	Wind	Temp
Birmingham	7:46	6:21	4-11	12.5
Belfast	7:46	6:21	4-11	12.5
Birmingham	7:46	6:21	4-11	12.5
Birmingham	7:46	6:21	4-11	12.5
Birmingham	7:46	6:21	4-11	12.5
Birmingham	7:46	6:21	4-11	12.5
Birmingham	7:46	6:21	4-11	12.5
Birmingham	7:46	6:21	4-11	12.5
Birmingham	7:46	6:21	4-11	12.5
Birmingham	7:46	6:21	4-11	12.5



Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; a, sun.

City	C	F
Belfast	10	50
Birmingham	5	41
Birmingham	5	41
Birmingham	5	41
Birmingham	5	41
Birmingham	5	41
Birmingham	5	41
Birmingham	5	41
Birmingham	5	41
Birmingham	5	41
Birmingham	5	41

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Perthshire, 12°C (54°F); lowest day temp: East Green, 4°C (39°F).
Highest night temp: Berwickshire, 0.5°C (33°F); lowest night temp: Perthshire, 0°C (32°F).

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9°C (48°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3°C (37°F). Humidity: 6 pm, 72%. Wind: 5-12 mph. Rain: 0 mm. Sun: 10:04-11:02 am. Bar: mean sea level, 1013.8 millibars.

High tides

Location	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	12:26	7:11	12:53	7:0
Aberdeen	12:26	4:3	1:03	4:2
Aberdeen	12:26	4:3	1:03	4:2
Aberdeen	12:26	4:3	1:03	4:2
Aberdeen	12:26	4:3	1:03	4:2
Aberdeen	12:26	4:3	1:03	4:2
Aberdeen	12:26	4:3	1:03	4:2
Aberdeen	12:26	4:3	1:03	4:2
Aberdeen	12:26	4:3	1:03	4:2
Aberdeen	12:26	4:3	1:03	4:2

Abroad

City	C	F
Alicante	10	50
Alicante	10	50
Alicante	10	50
Alicante	10	50
Alicante	10	50
Alicante	10	50
Alicante	10	50
Alicante	10	50
Alicante	10	50
Alicante	10	50
Alicante	10	50

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,300

A prize of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12 Colney Street, London WC9N 9YU. The winners and solutions will be published next Saturday.

Name: _____
Address: _____

ACROSS

- 1 Game player? Nonsense! (10).
- 2 Former tragic killer in the West Country (6).
- 3 Sure it's connected with current arrangements? (8).
- 4 Woodworkers call it a rest centre (8).
- 5 Girl some deemed naive? (4).
- 6 Queen trains Eton form to read novelist (4,6).
- 7 Naughtiness of Benedict's lady? (7).
- 8 ARP members left in sympathy (7).
- 9 Food reserve for wartime consumer (6,4).
- 10 Started to open a drink (4).
- 11 Made an unusual decorated fabric (8).
- 12 Herb and Jack continue to indulge in horseplay (8).
- 13 Ingenious type many bar (6).
- 14 TV programme to control opinion (6-4).
- 15 Encounter needs some minutes (7).
- 16 Mean quarters given to rising artist (4).
- 17 New NCO got an unusual percentage? (8).
- 18 A digger of 49, perhaps? (10).
- 19 Finished article with tip for pipe-maker (3-7).
- 20 Unprintable parts of Hamlet? (5,5).
- 21 Glazed with state aid, possibly (8).
- 22 Spectre of power being given up to worker, as many view it (8).
- 23 Kind of fungi - nothing subtle in this anagram! (7).
- 24 March with poster to unite under (6).
- 25 Not a jolly type? (4).

Tomorrow

Royal engagements
The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Federation Equestre Internationale, presides at the FEI General Assembly and Bureau Meetings in Amsterdam, departs from Lydd Airport, Kent, 10.15.
Music
Concert by St Peter's Singers with St Peter's Chamber Orchestra, Leeds Parish Church, Leeds, 8.15.
Recital by Spoliar piano trio, The Arts Centre, Town Hall, Southampton, Oxfordshire, 4.
Carol Services
Advent Carol Service, Manchester Cathedral, 7.
Advent Carol Service, Coventry Cathedral, 7.
General
Somerset and Avon Antiques Fair, Belgrove Hotel, Teques, 10.30 to 4.30.

Space shuttle calls

British Telecom customers can listen in to live communication between the Columbia space shuttle and Mission Control at Houston, Texas, by dialling 0101 307 410 6272. Only direct-dialled calls can be made.
A three-minute call during the cheap rate period will cost £1.62. Ten minutes cost £3.41 (both prices include VAT).

The pound

Country	Bank	Rate
Australia	Bank	1.63
Australia	Sells	1.55
Austria	Bank	28.98
Austria	Sells	27.30
Belgium	Bank	83.75
Belgium	Sells	79.75
Canada	Bank	1.57
Canada	Sells	1.48
Denmark	Bank	14.73
Denmark	Sells	14.83
Finland	Bank	8.77
Finland	Sells	8.37
France	Bank	12.39
France	Sells	11.80
Germany	Bank	4.97
Germany	Sells	3.88
Greece	Bank	161.00
Greece	Sells	151.00
Italy	Bank	354.00
Italy	Sells	336.00
Ireland	Bank	1.31
Ireland	Sells	1.26
Japan	Bank	2469.00
Japan	Sells	2350.00
Netherlands	Bank	4.58
Netherlands	Sells	4.35
Norway	Bank	11.39
Norway	Sells	10.79
Portugal	Bank	208.00
Portugal	Sells	198.00
South Africa	Bank	1.80
South Africa	Sells	1.67
Spain	Bank	21.78
Spain	Sells	20.80
Sweden	Bank	12.82
Sweden	Sells	11.45
Switzerland	Bank	3.28
Switzerland	Sells	3.11
USA	Bank	1.45
USA	Sells	1.39
West Germany	Bank	216.00
West Germany	Sells	209.00

The papers

The Daily Nation of Nairobi yesterday commented on the forced removal of blacks from South Africa, saying: "George Orwell's 1984 is almost here. In the land of apartheid the Department of Cooperation and Development has destroyed the village of Mapogo where black families have lived in peace for generations.
The department has bulldozed Mapogo's four churches, its schools and clinics. The water pumps have been removed from boreholes and the bus service has been suspended.
This is apartheid, the naked reality of which is sickening. This is the regime that certain other western countries are supporting with their investments and their silence. When will they ever learn?"
The Standard of Nairobi commented on the Commonwealth summit meeting in New Delhi, that "it was particularly worth noting that none of the older members of the club (Australia, Britain, Canada and New Zealand) despite their passivity and reservations, managed to rescue the South African regime from the marsh swamp it received at the conference table."
The government-owned Daily News of Dar es Salaam, welcomed President Mitterrand's proposal of a new "Breton Woods" world economic conference.

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 17

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